Vol.20

ROKUDA NOBORU

F

VOL.20

ROKUDA NOBORU
LOVE SAVE
VOL.20
MESSENGER FROM ABOVE

F

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MESSENGER FROM ABOVE

Chapter 1: The Motherless Child
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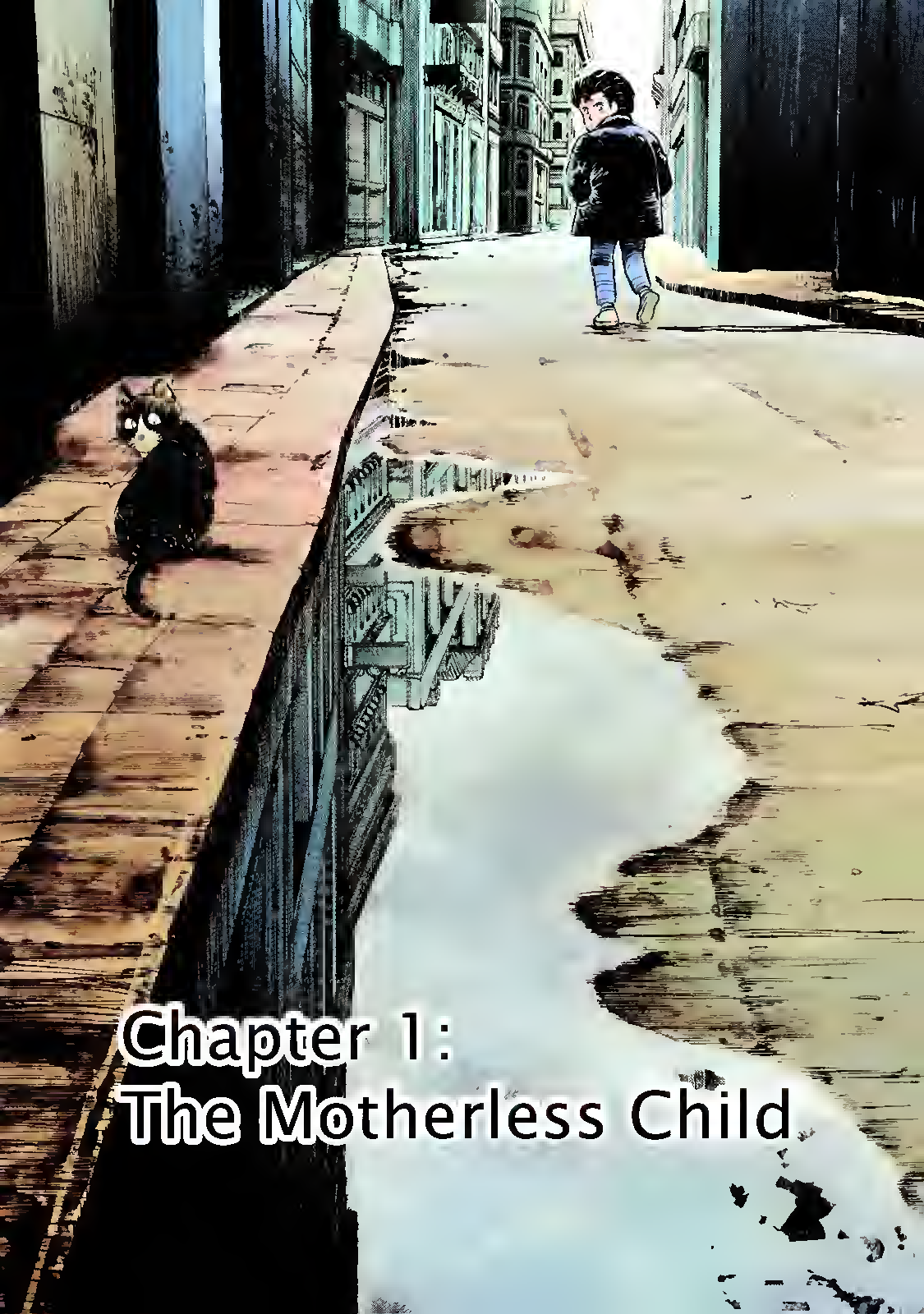
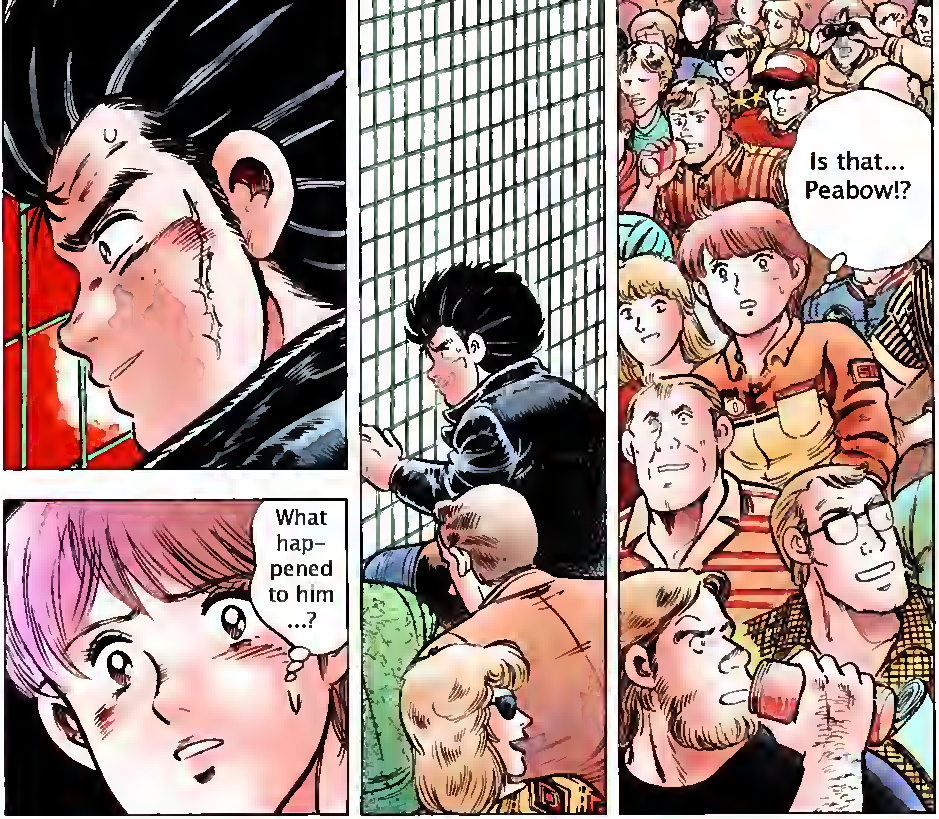
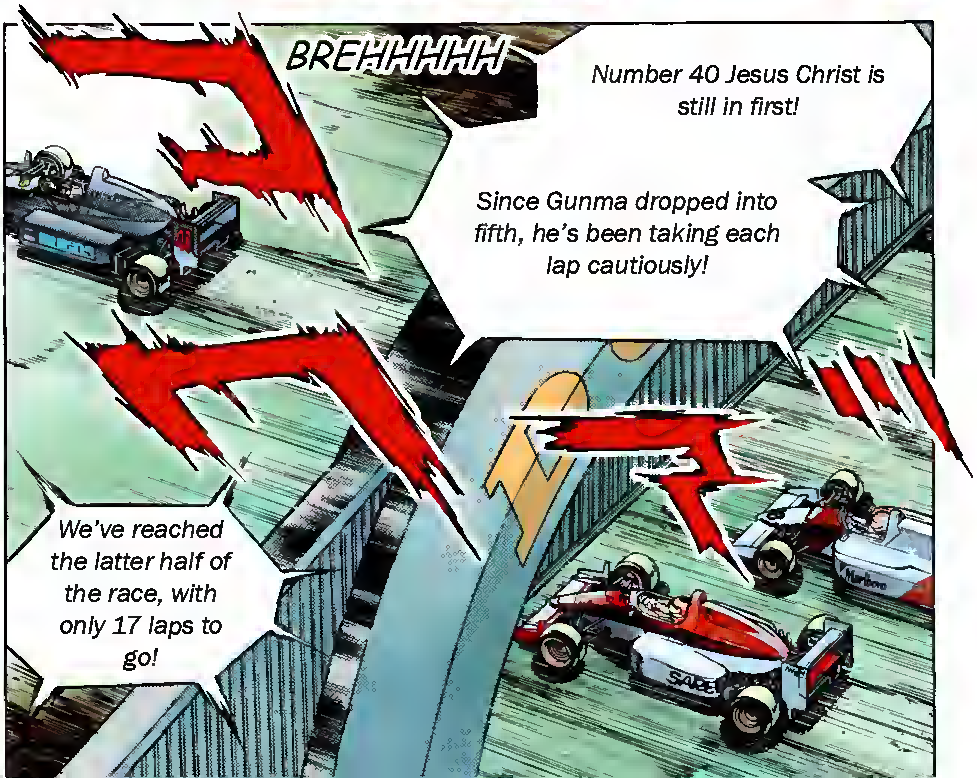
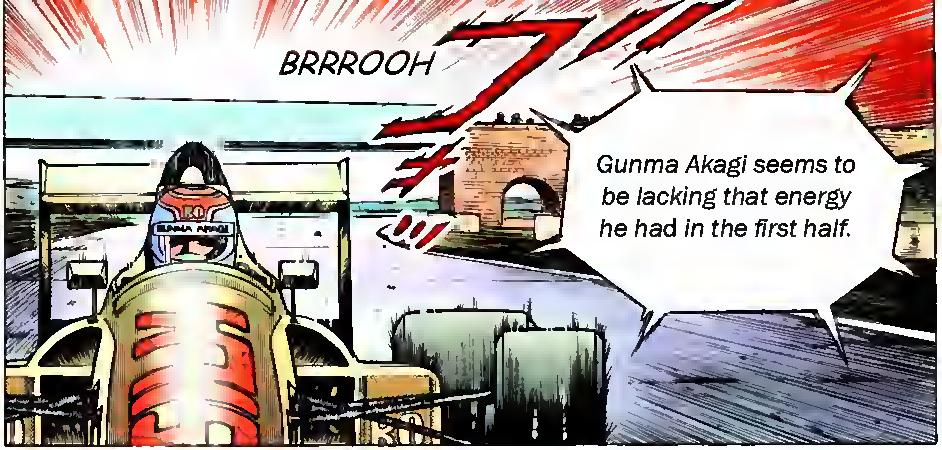
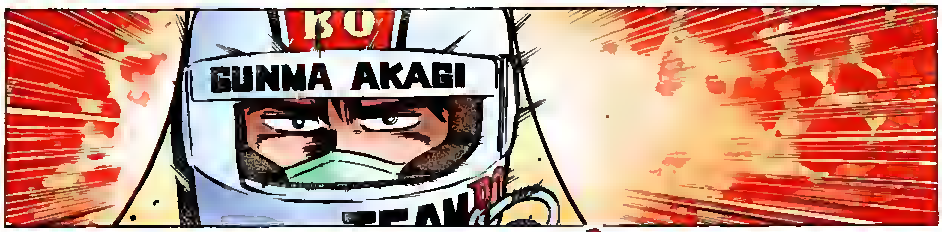
Chapter 6: Time and Space
Chapter 7: Messenger from Above
Chapter 8: The Last Spot
Chapter 9: Predestination
Chapter 10: Restart
Chapter 11: To Be Forgiven
Chapter 12: Chasing Rainbows

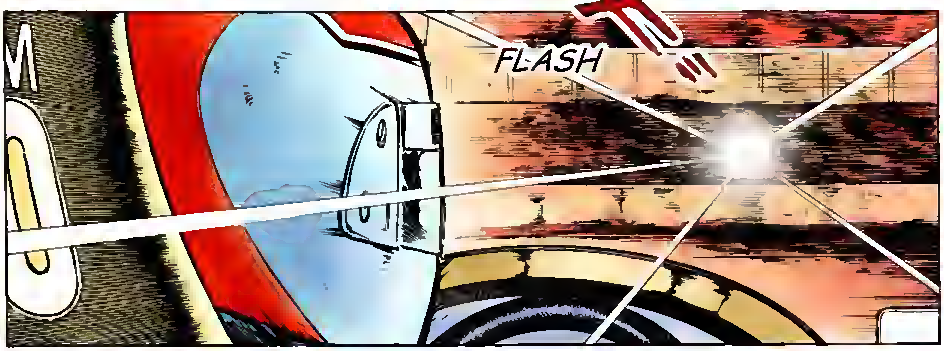

Chapter 1:
The Motherless Child


Is that... Peabow!?
What hap-pened to him ...?

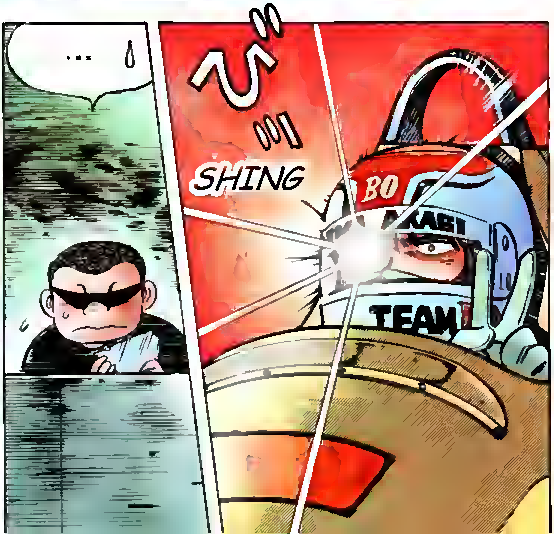

BREHHHHH
Number 40 Jesus Christ is still in first!
Since Gunma dropped into fifth, he's been taking each lap cautiously!
We've reached the latter half of the race, with only 17 laps to go!

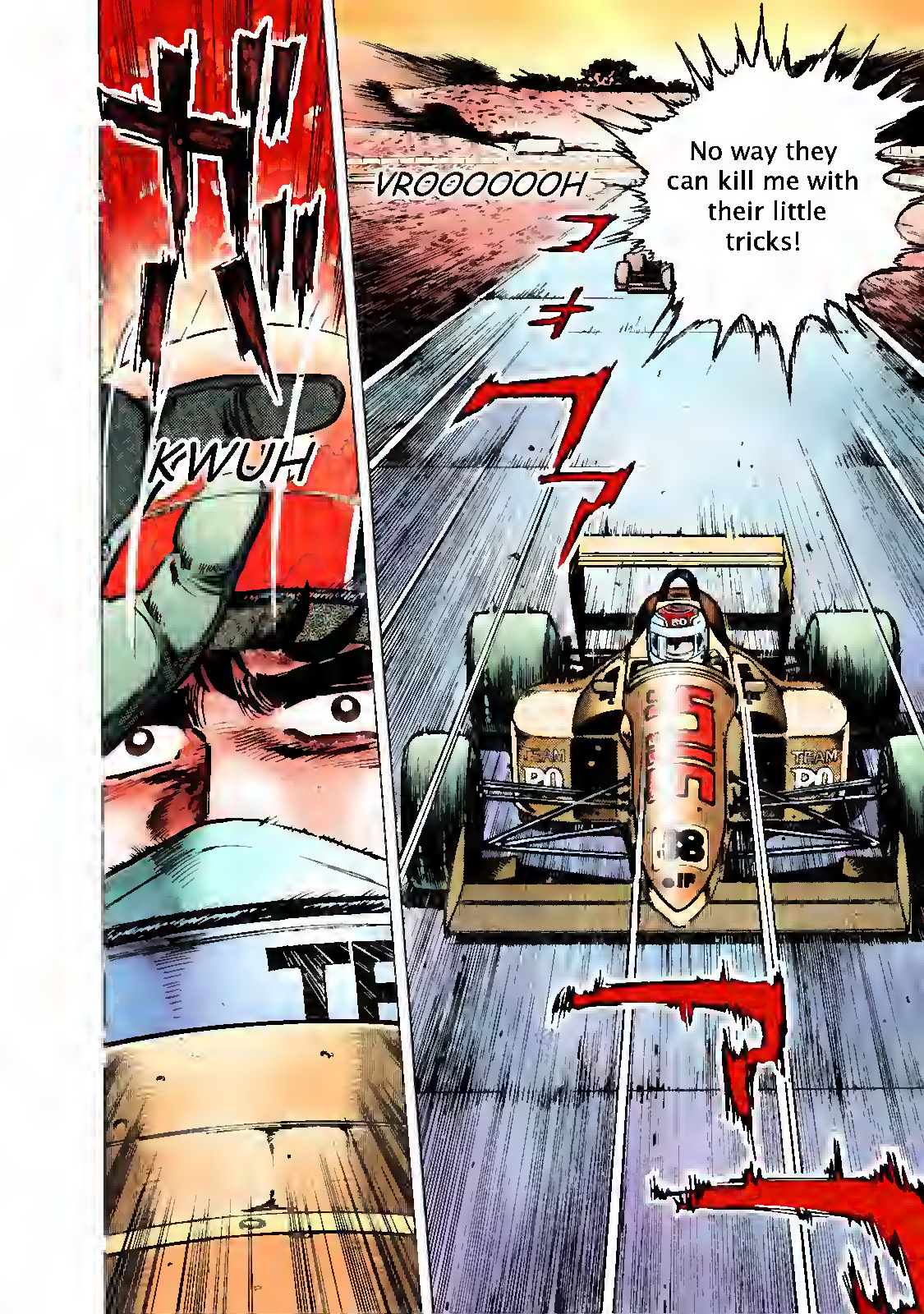

BRRROOH
Gunma Akagi seems to be lacking that energy he had in the first half.


GUNMA AKAGI

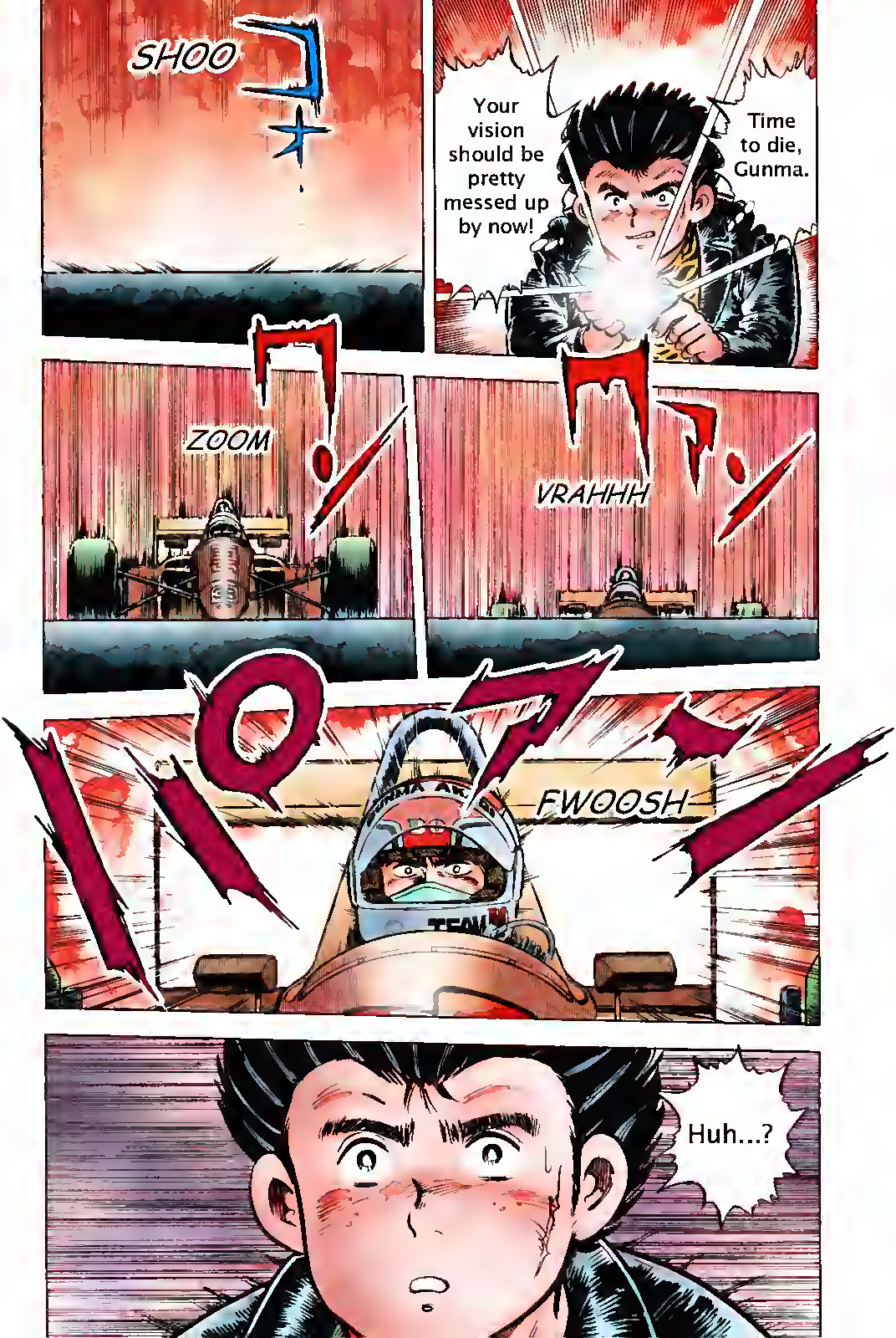

FLASH

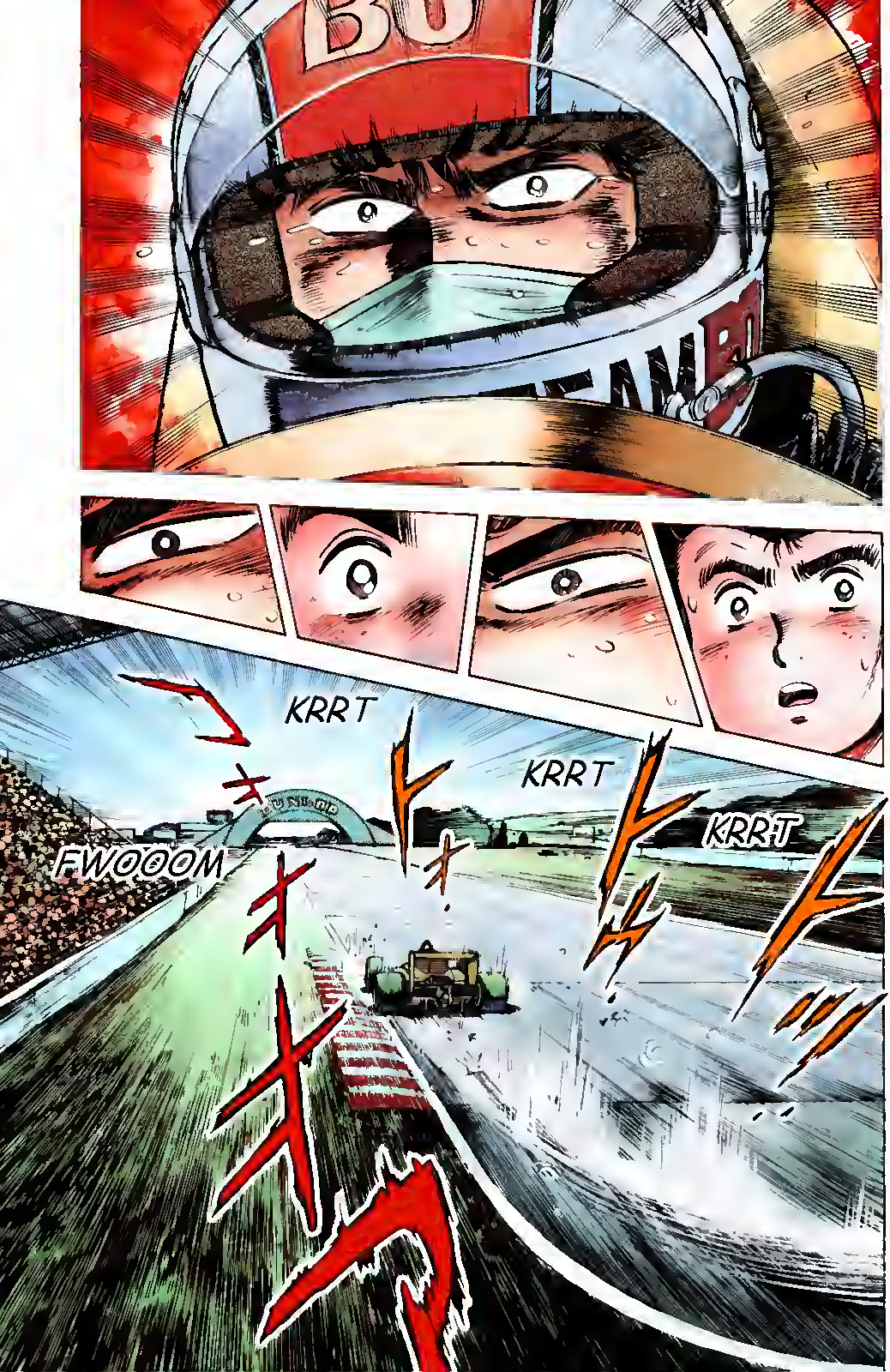
My eyes are still a little messed up from the first time.
They're doin' it from three different spots now.
But they're just kids.
TEAM

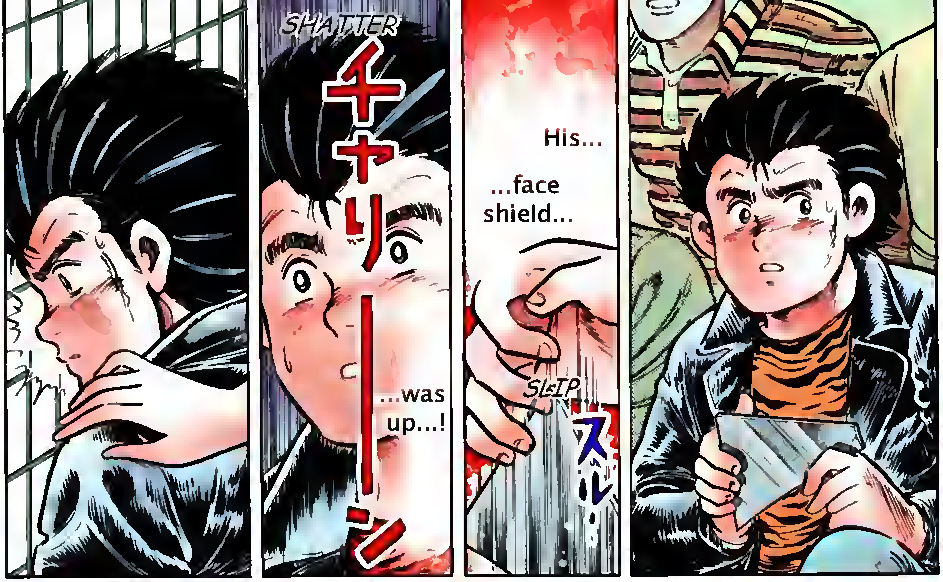

...
SHING
TEAM

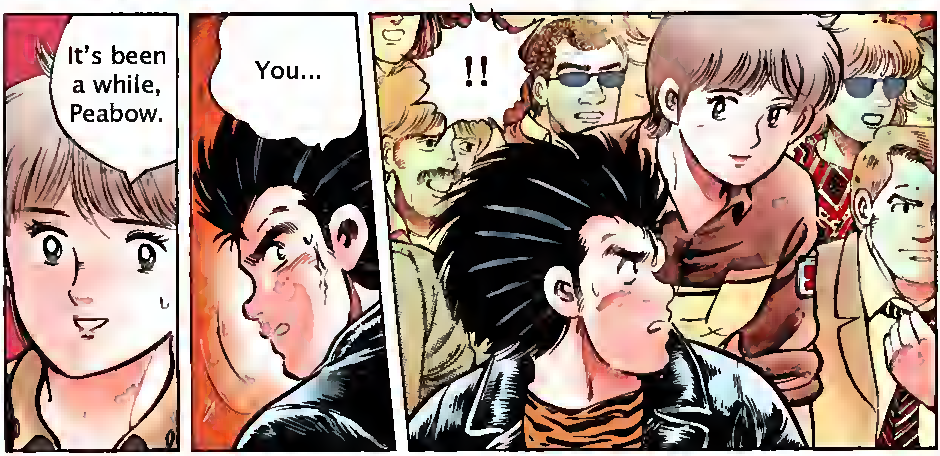

KWUH
VROOOOOOH
No way they can kill me with their little tricks!

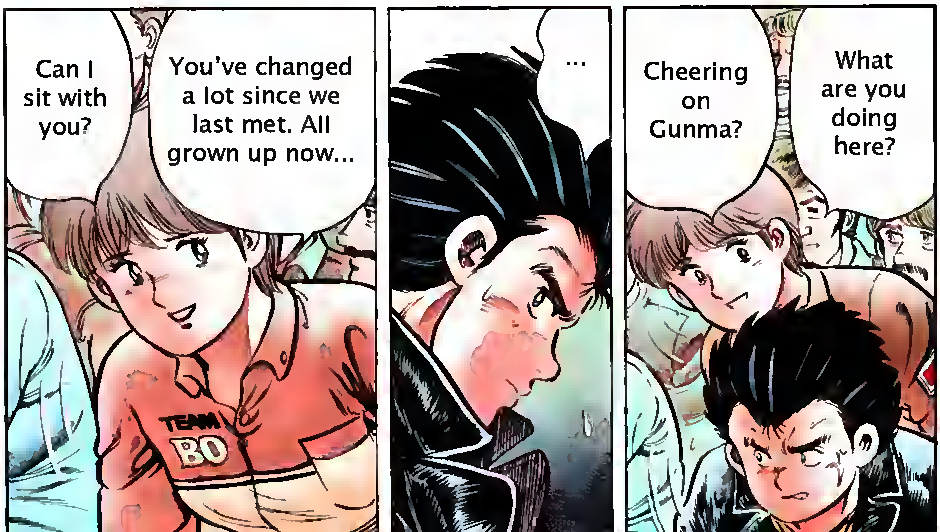
ZOOOOOM
Peabow!

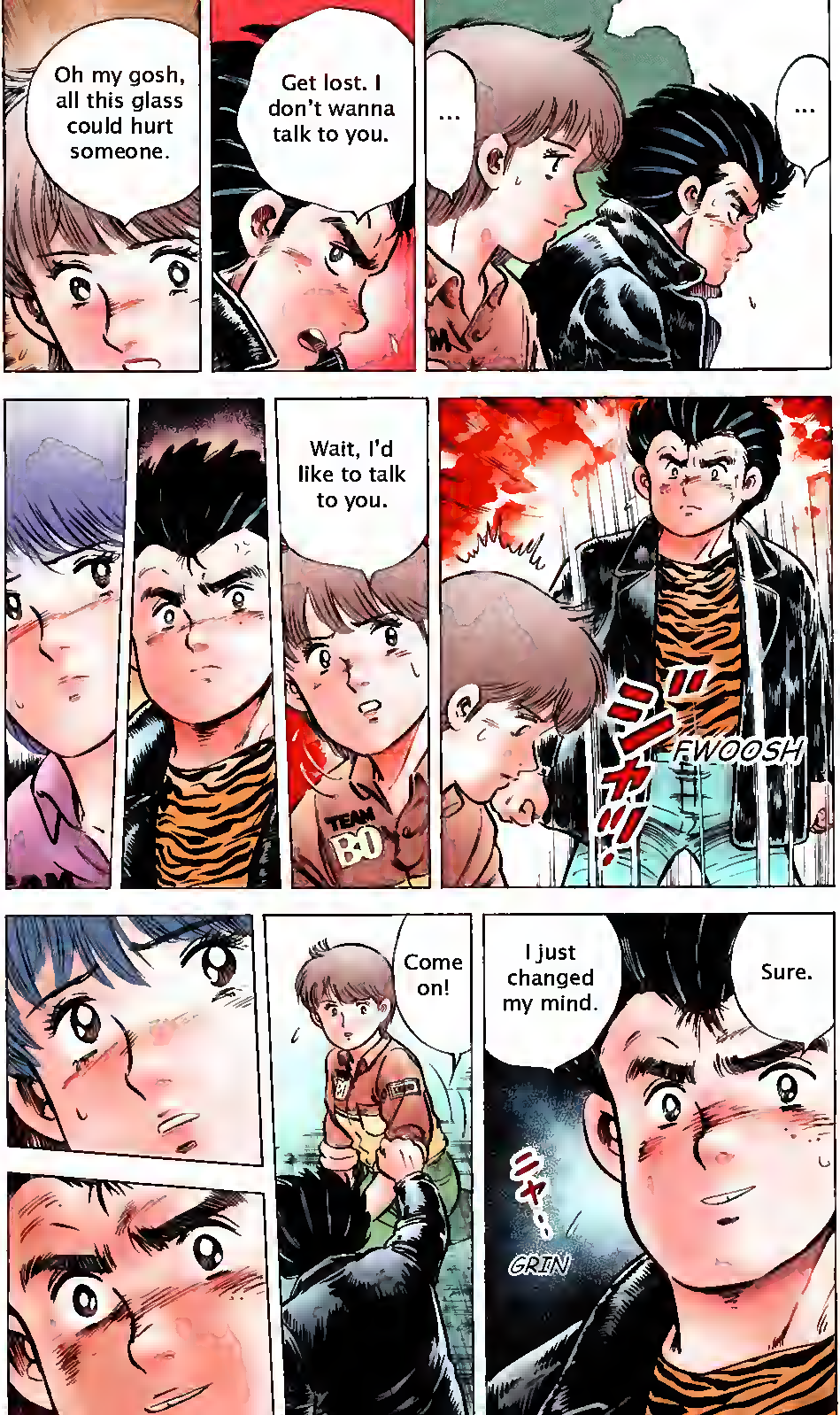

SHOO
Your vision should be pretty messed up by now!
Time to die, Gunma.
ZOOM
VRAHHH
FWOOSH
Huh...?


KRRT
KRRT
KRRT
FWOOOM

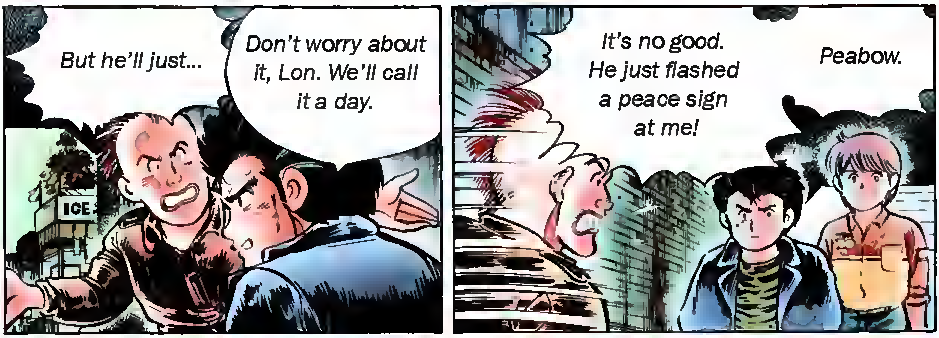

SHATTER
チャリーン
...was up...!
His...
...face shield...
SLIP
スル

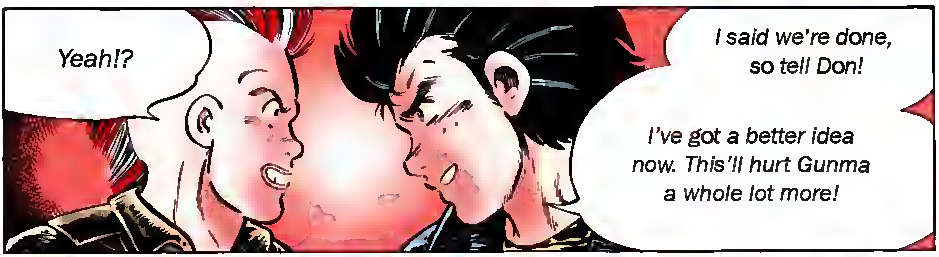

It's been a while, Peabow.
You...
!!

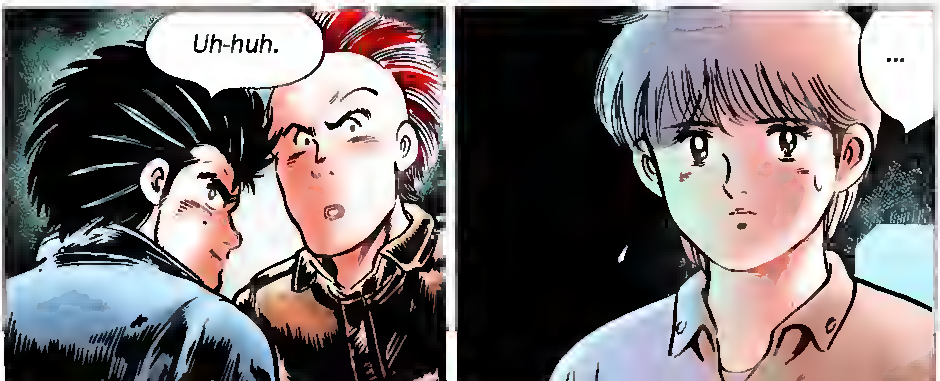

Can I sit with you?
You've changed a lot since we last met. All grown up now...
TEAM BO
...
Cheering on Gunma?
What are you doing here?

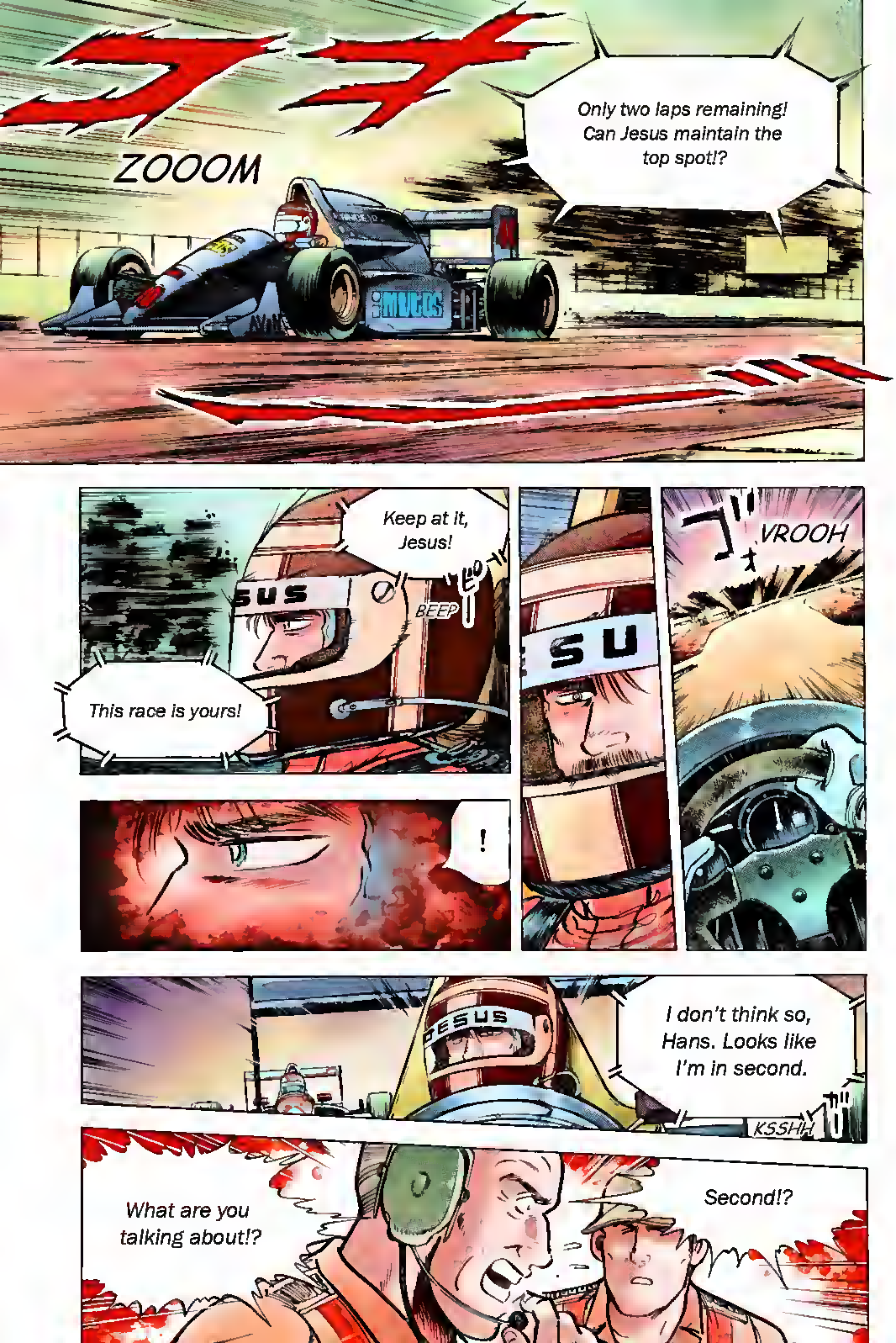

Oh my gosh, all this glass could hurt someone.
Get lost. I don't wanna talk to you.
...
...
Wait, I'd like to talk to you.
TEAM
B4U
FWOOSH
Come on!
I just changed my mind.
Sure.
GRIN

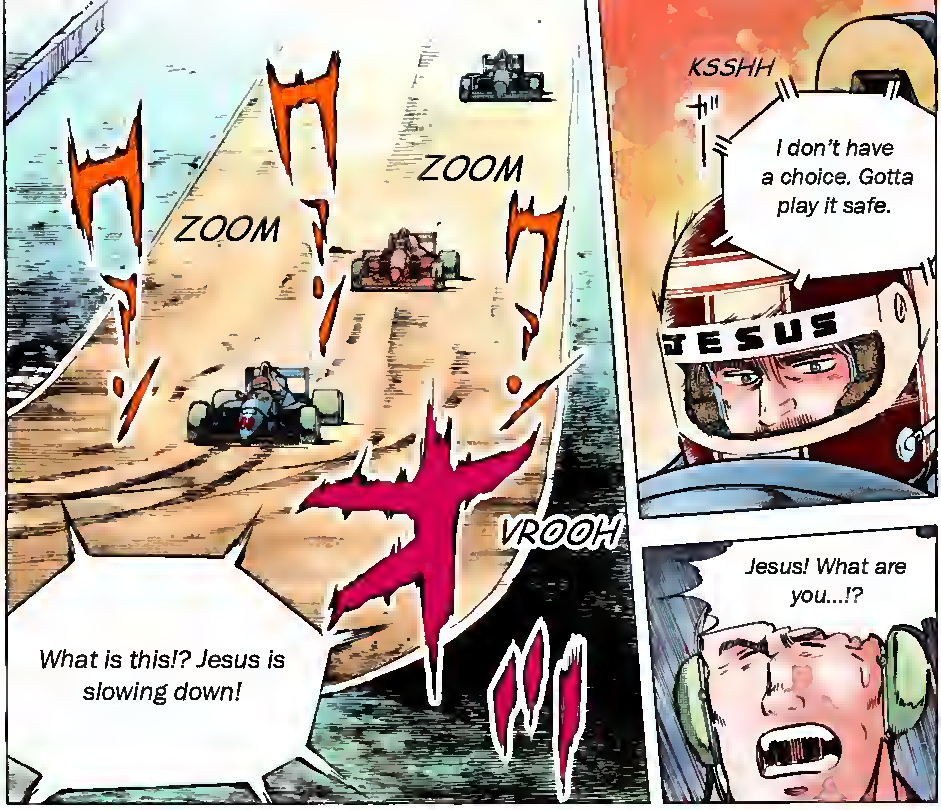
I'm coming.
You don't have to come, you know.
Or do I scare you?
You wanna talk, right? A nice quiet place to talk, that's all.
Where are we going?

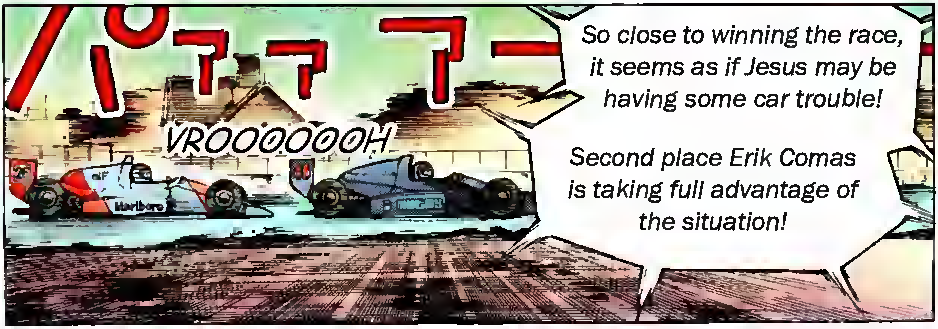

But he'll just...
Don't worry about it, Lon. We'll call it a day.
ICE
It's no good. He just flashed a peace sign at me!
Peabow.


Yeah!?
I said we're done, so tell Don!
I've got a better idea now. This'll hurt Gunma a whole lot more!

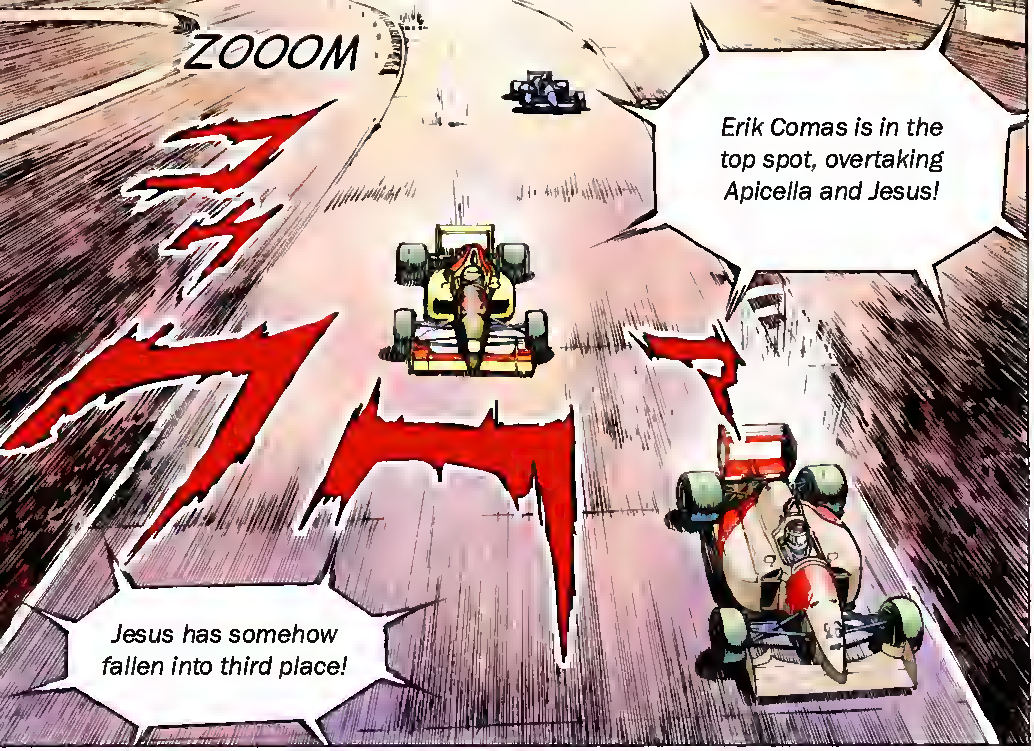

Uh-huh.
...

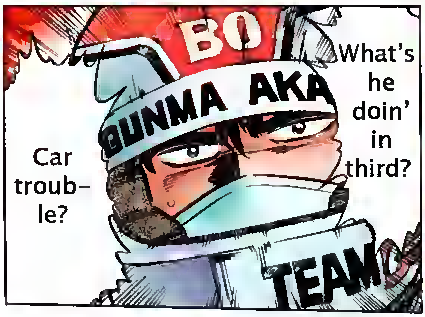

ZOOOM
Only two laps remaining! Can Jesus maintain the top spot!?
Keep at it, Jesus!
BEEP
This race is yours!
!
VROOH
I don't think so, Hans. Looks like I'm in second.
KSSHH
What are you talking about!?
Second!?

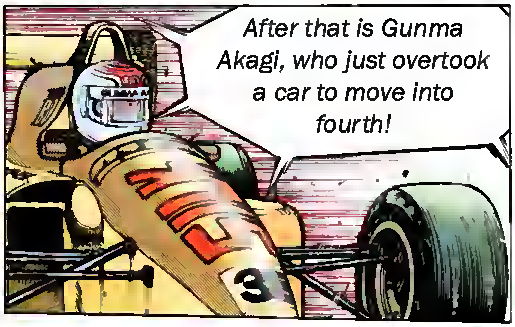

ZOOM
ZOOM
VROOH
What is this!? Jesus is slowing down!
KSSHH
I don't have a choice. Gotta play it safe.
JESUS
Jesus! What are you...!?

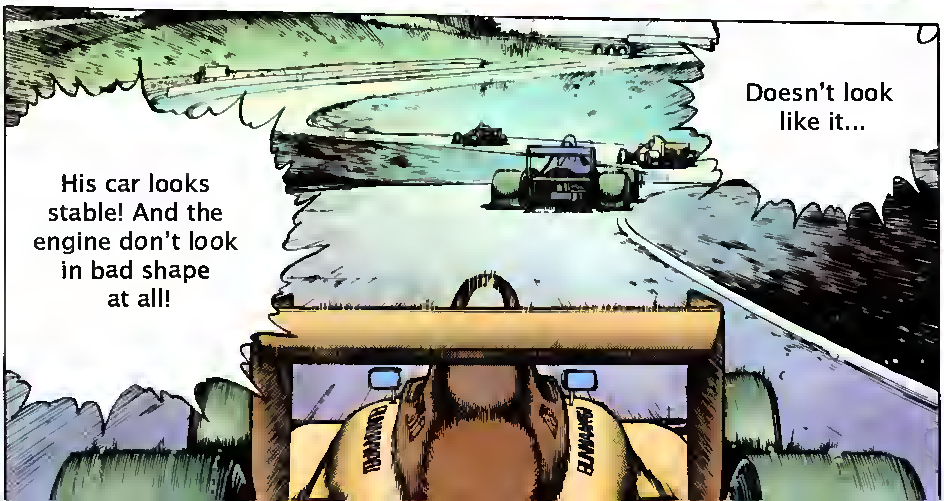

VROOOOOOH
So close to winning the race, it seems as if Jesus may be having some car trouble!
Second place Erik Comas is taking full advantage of the situation!

Come on, now.
Looks like something's about to happen!
Not again!


ZOOOM
Erik Comas is in the top spot, overtaking Apicella and Jesus!
Jesus has somehow fallen into third place!

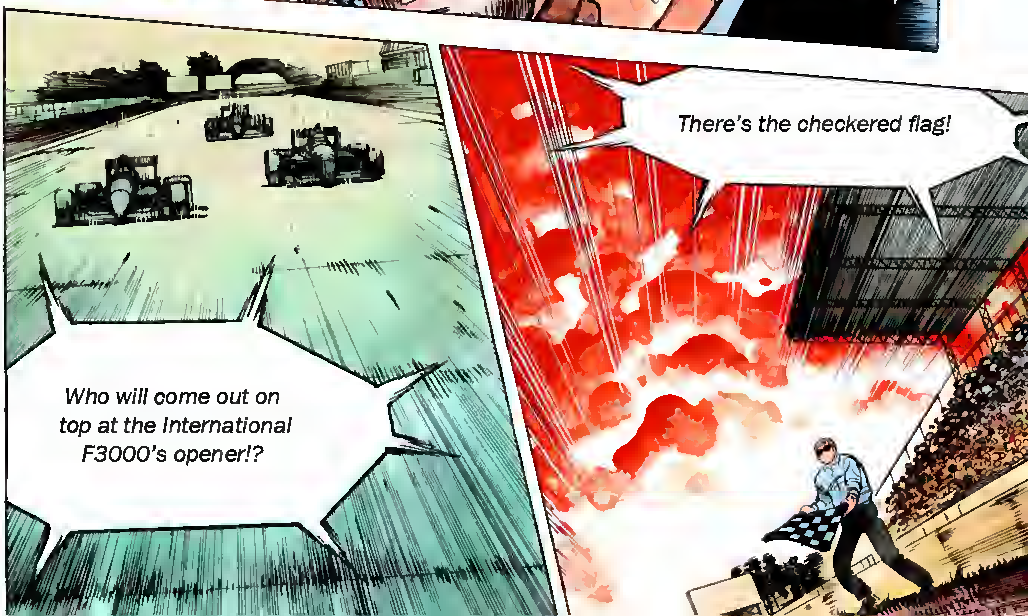

BO
GUNMA AKA
TEAM
What's he doin' in third?
Car troub-le?

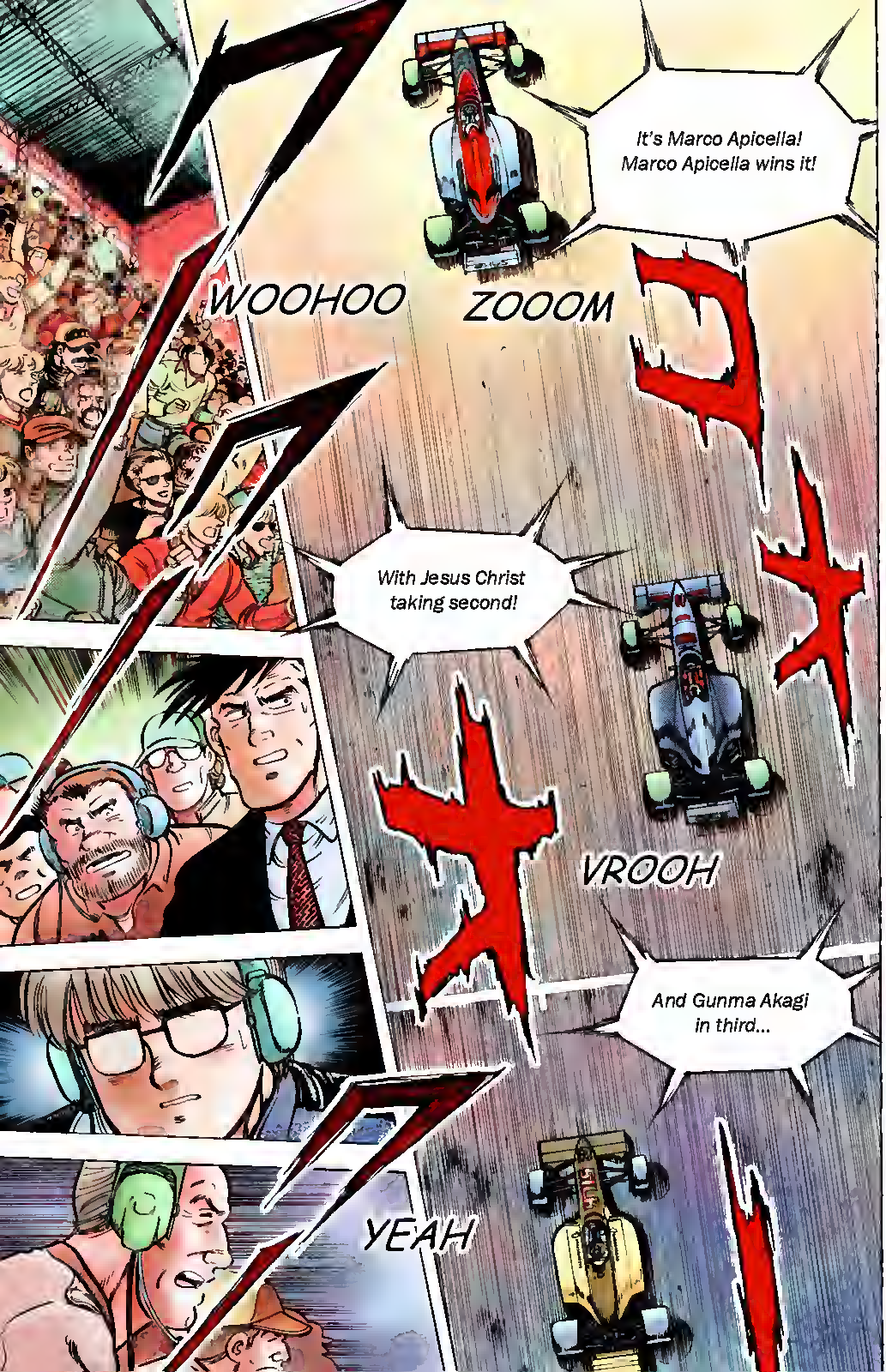

After that is Gunma Akagi, who just overtook a car to move into fourth!
3

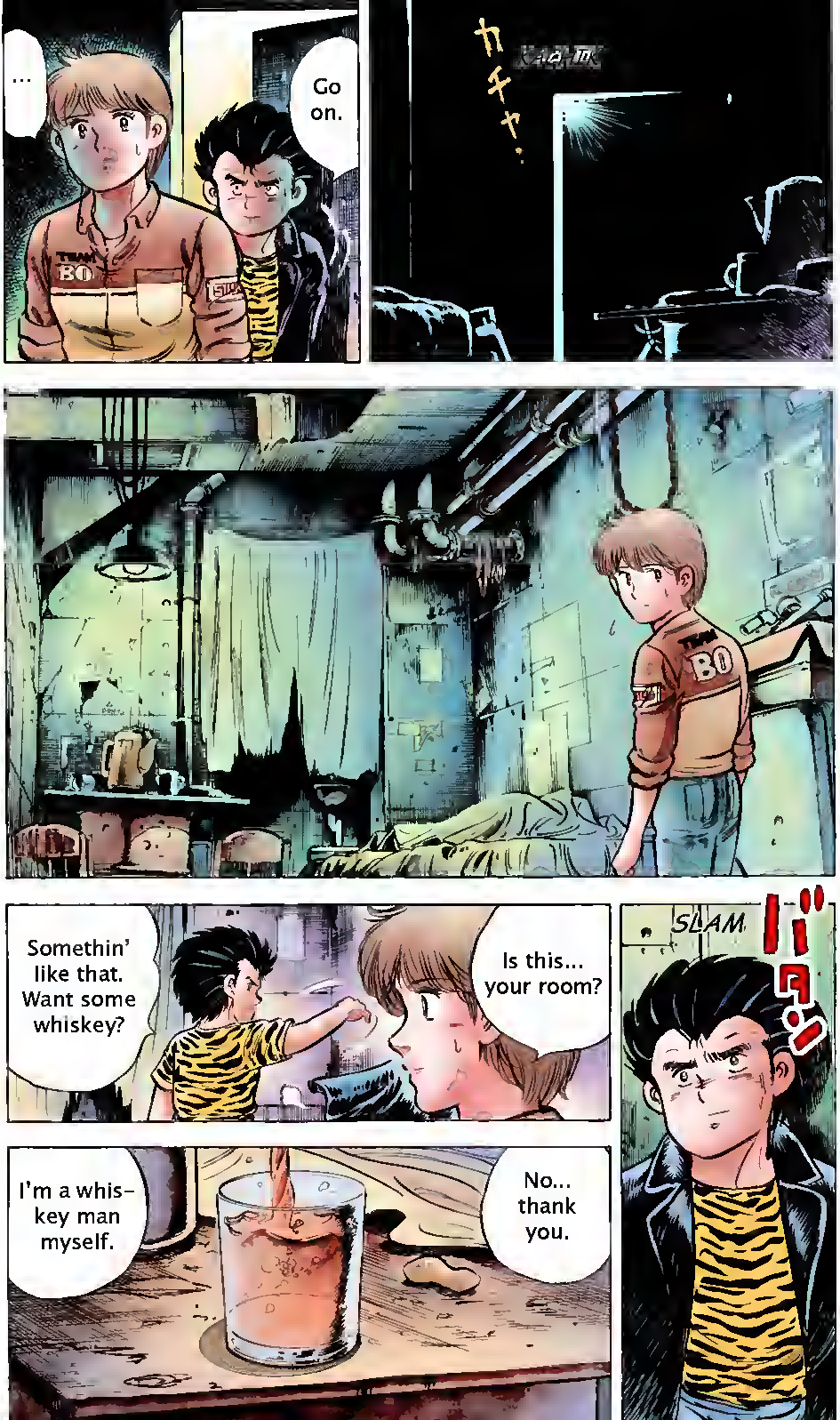

Doesn't look like it...
His car looks stable! And the engine don't look in bad shape at all!

What a crazy turn of events in the final stretch of the race!
But Apicella barely manages to slip past it unscathed!
And Comas got entangled in it, right after taking the top spot!
What's this!? A car on an earlier lap has crashed up ahead!

!!


Who will come out on top at the International F3000's opener!?
There's the checkered flag!


It's Marco Apicella!
Marco Apicella wins it!
WOOHOO
ZOOOM
With Jesus Christ
taking second!
VROOH
And Gunma Akagi
in third...
YEAH


...
Go on.
カチャ
Somethin' like that. Want some whiskey?
Is this... your room?
SLAM
I'm a whis-key man myself.
No... thank you.

.....
GLUG GLUG
It's a real man's drink.
...
TEAM
What do you wanna talk about?
Okay ...
COUGH
COUGH
...
So speak up.
I thought you wanted to talk.
Peabow, you shouldn't drink so much.
COUGH
COUGH
TEAM BO
GLUG GLUG

Do you even know why I brought you here, Ms. Junko?
SHATTER
Shut up!
!
Don't gimme that crap!
I'll tell you one thing, it wasn't to talk!
I'm a grown man, and rotten to the core!
Too bad for you!
So I brought you here to rape you!
...!
I'm prepared.

Chapter 2:
Maternal Instinct

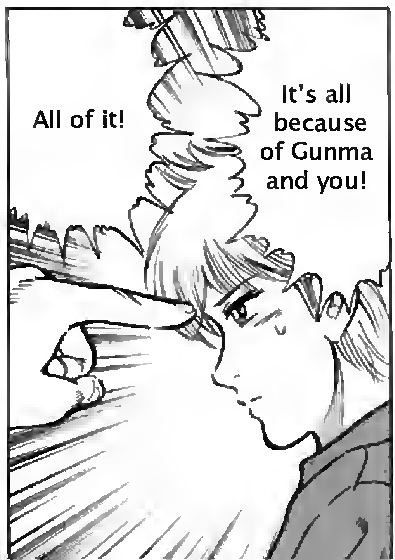
What did you just say?
...
TEAM BC
Now let go.
As much as you hate Gunma, I know a simple talk won't do any good.
I said I'm prepared.
If that's what it'll take.
Then do it, if that's what you want.
...I'm about to rape you.
I said ...

What I'm really worried about...
...is you, Pea-bow.
Are you that worried I'm gonna kill him?
Wow, you must really love Gunma to go through with this.
!
It's called growing up.
Tsh...
When I saw you in the stands today...
...I couldn't believe how different you were.
Hate will distort a person's soul.
TWITCH
What!?
No, you've been twisted!

Not the twisted, distorted soul filled with hatred that I see in front of me.
The Peabow I know is an innocent young boy, trying his hardest to show love for others.

That's why I'm like this!
Gunma's the one who betrayed Sako, and screwed up our whole family!

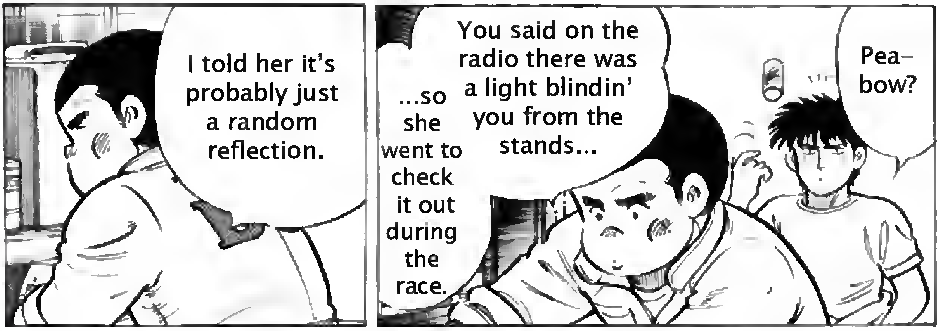
Yeah!? Well who the hell do you think made me like this!?

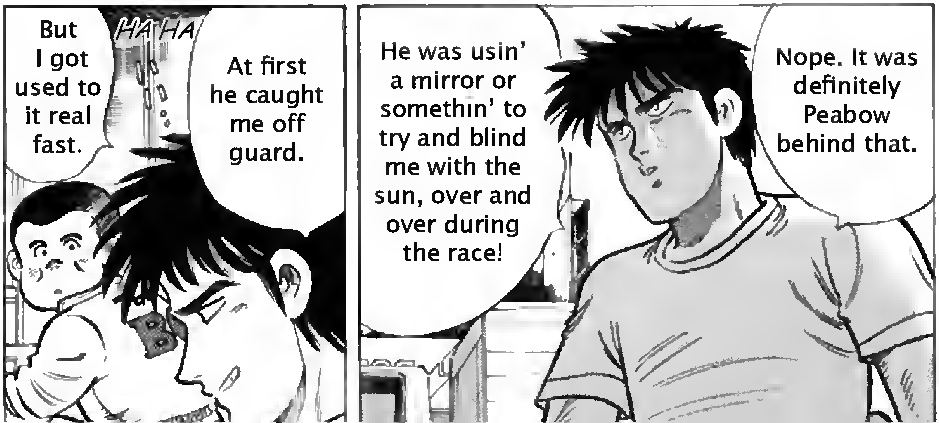

All of it!
It's all because of Gunma and you!

...she woulda never went back with George...
If Gunma wouldn't have left Sako...
...and she wouldn't have ever killed anybody!

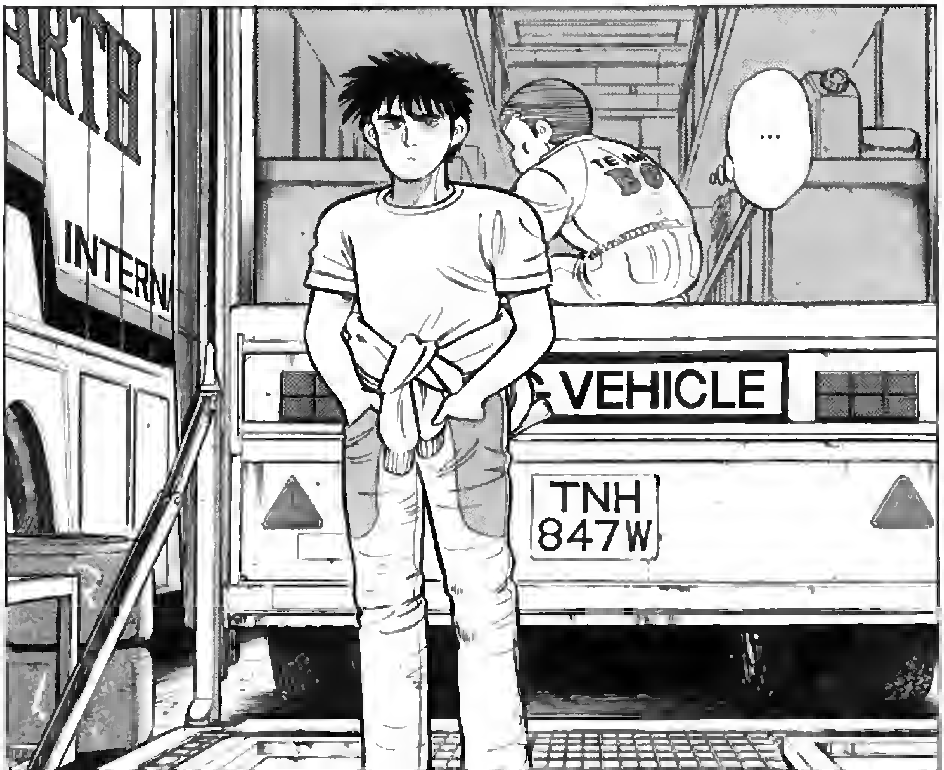
I'll never forgive him for that!
GRIP
Or you either!
I'm gonna screw you so hard! I'm gonna rape the one Gunma loves most!
Heh heh... I can't wait to see the look on his face...
Peabow.
You said you're ready for this!
RRRIP
If you think I'm just a kid, you're wrong.
So what are you gonna do, Junko!?

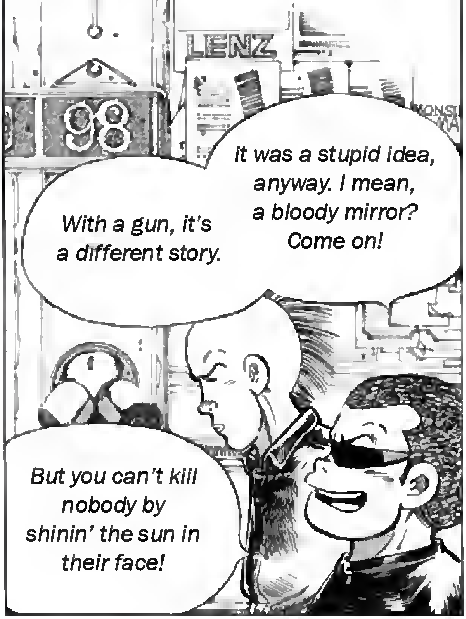
Got any idea, Tamotsu?
Where'd Junko take off to?
38
Maybe she went to look for Peabow.


I told her it's probably just a random reflection.
You said on the radio there was a light blindin' you from the stands...
...so she went to check it out during the race.
Pea-bow?


But I got used to it real fast.
HA HA
At first he caught me off guard.
He was usin' a mirror or somethin' to try and blind me with the sun, over and over during the race!
Nope. It was definitely Peabow behind that.

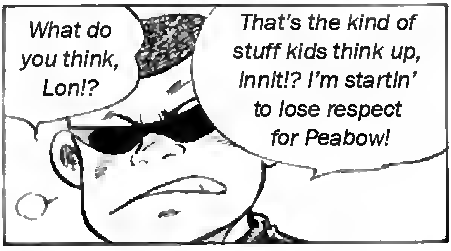
But in this crowd? I dunno...
If she finds him and catches him, I oughta give him a good scolding.
Like this!
That's about as much as a punk like him can think up. I just flipped up my face shield and flashed him a peace sign!
I wonder if Junko was able to track him down.
Well ...
...she'll be back eventua- lly.


...
INTERN
VEHICLE
TNH
847W


LENZ
98
It was a stupid idea, anyway. I mean, a bloody mirror? Come on!
With a gun, it's a different story.
But you can't kill nobody by shinin' the sun in their face!

JAR
Did Peabow go back before us?
Probably

I suppose.
It'd be easier if we could get our hands on a pistol.


What do you think, Lon!?
That's the kind of stuff kids think up, innit!? I'm startin' to lose respect for Peabow!

ドギュン
BANG
Yer dead!
That's right! Real thugs need the right tools!

...?

If you want a shooter so bad, I could sell ya one.
You blokes got any money?
HEH
HEH
HEH

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
I wanna see you put up a fight!
Giving up already!?
HUFF
Are you convinced yet that I'm not a kid anymore? Heh heh...
Do I scare you?
You're shaking... Heh, scared now?
A child was fussing at his mother's side.
HUFF
Before I found you in the stands...

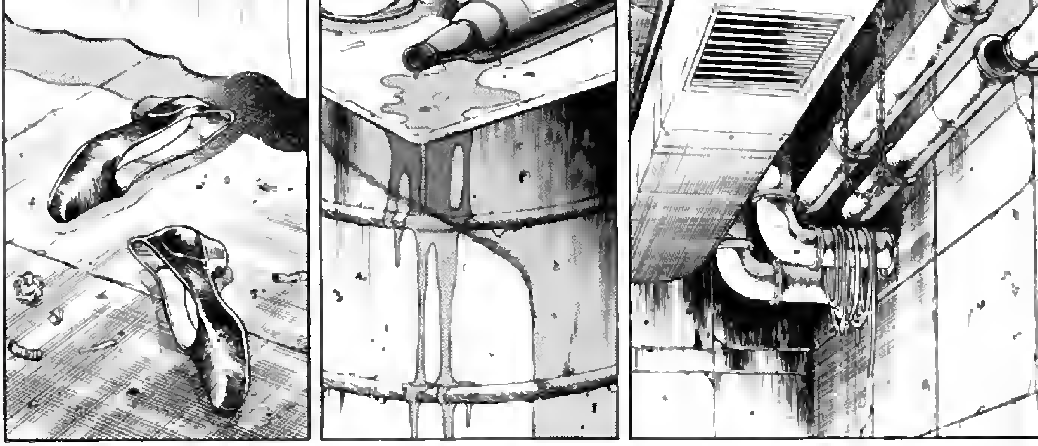
So what!?
HUFF
HUFF
Yeah?
And the mother hit her child.
HUFF
...I know you're really a good boy.
This is what she said...

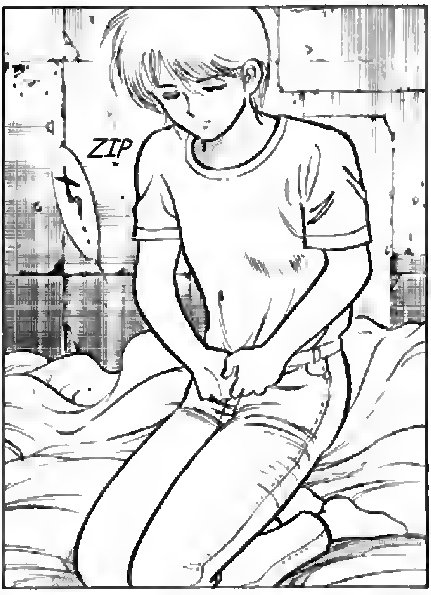
HUFF
Just a confused child who's lost his way.
You've just lost your way.
HUFF
HUFF
So as your mother, I need to get you back on the right track.
Yes.
I want to be, if I can.
Gimme a break.
You tryin' to be my mom, or something?
Tsh.
!?
Don't gimme that!
I ain't got a mom!
The reason I came here, was to be your mother!
That's it, exactly!
!?

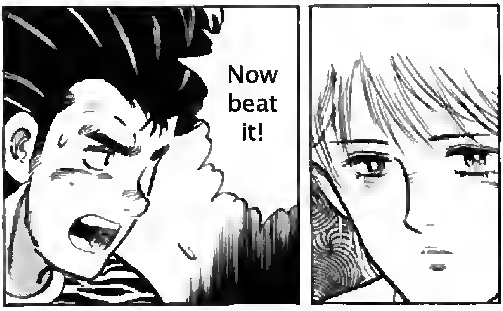
CHOMP
Pea-
bow.
I feel so sorry for you.
You don't have a mother like the boy in the stands you can cry to...
...or anyone to set you on the right track.

Did you really meet Gunma?
Is it true, Ryuji?
Gunma told me he talked with you, while stuck between here and the afterlife.
What did you say to him?
Gunma...
I love you.
Gunma...
I'm sorry, Auntie. I'm so sorry...
How selfish of me to leave you alone in that old apartment... I'm so sorry...

I really love you.
Gun-ma...

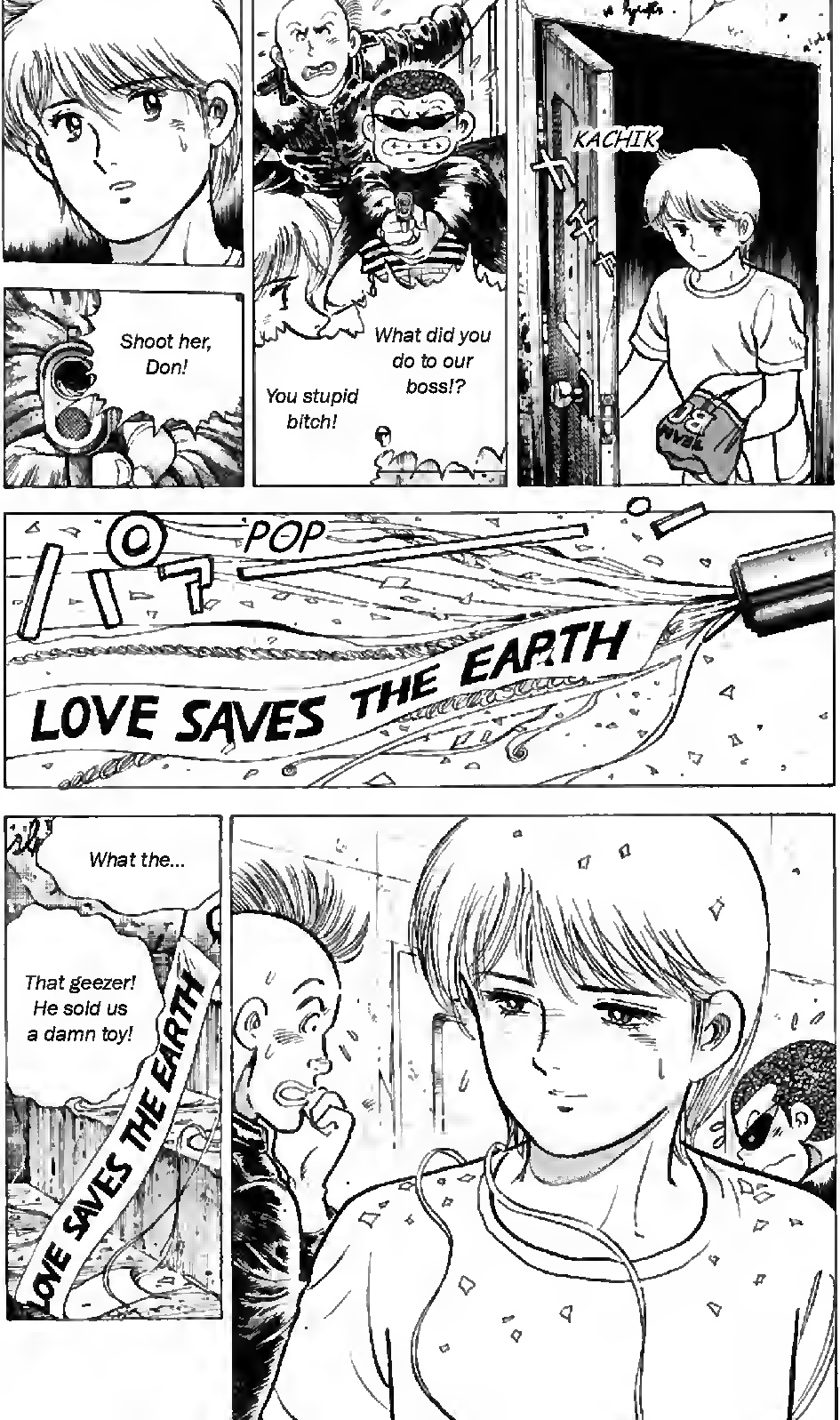



ZIP


Now beat it!

Get the hell outta here!

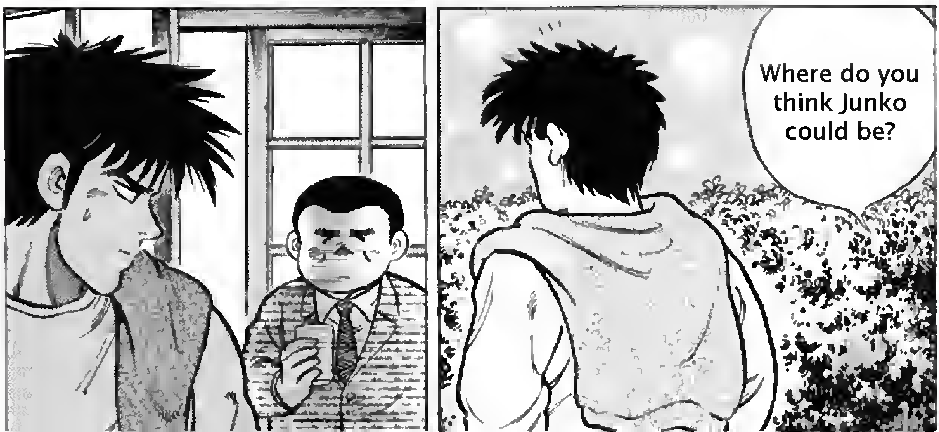
You better be gone by the time I'm back then!
And never come back!
Let me...
... wash these sheets.
SLAM
Hey Peabow.
Where are you going!?
I'll be back.
Until you've been washed clean of all that hatred.
I'll keep coming back.


KACHIK
What did you do to our boss!?
You stupid bitch!
Shoot her, Don!
POP
LOVE SAVES THE EARTH
What the...
That geezer! He sold us a damn toy!
LOVE SAVES THE EARTH

Chapter 3: Frail

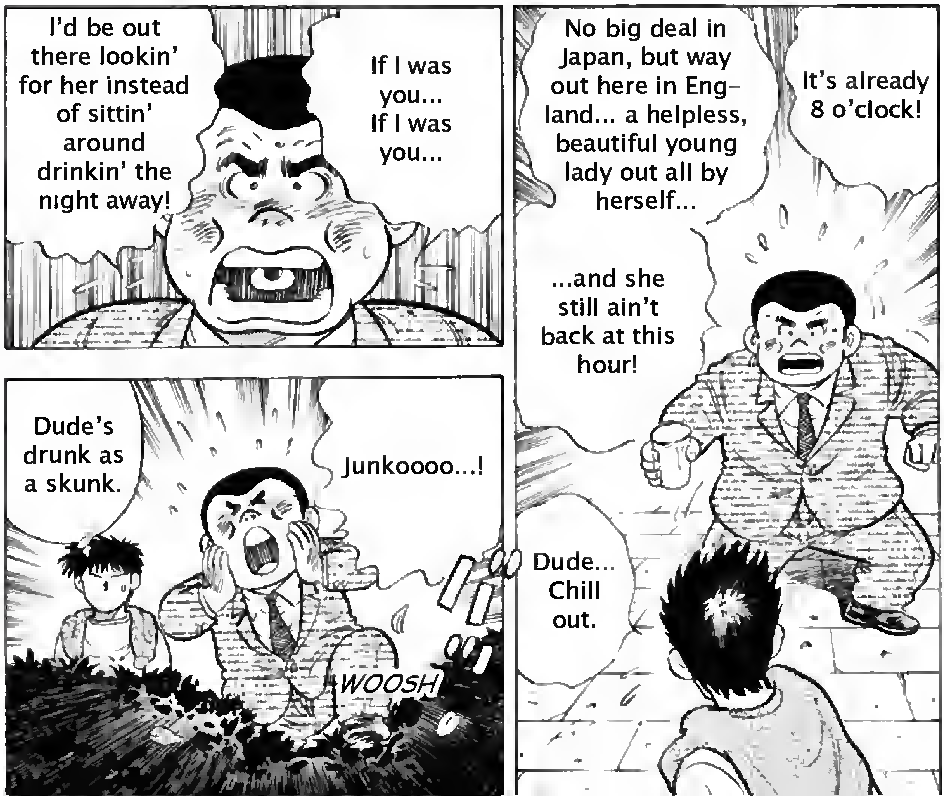
What's the matter, Gunma? Come in for a drink.

...
Sure, I'll be right there.
HA HA-HA

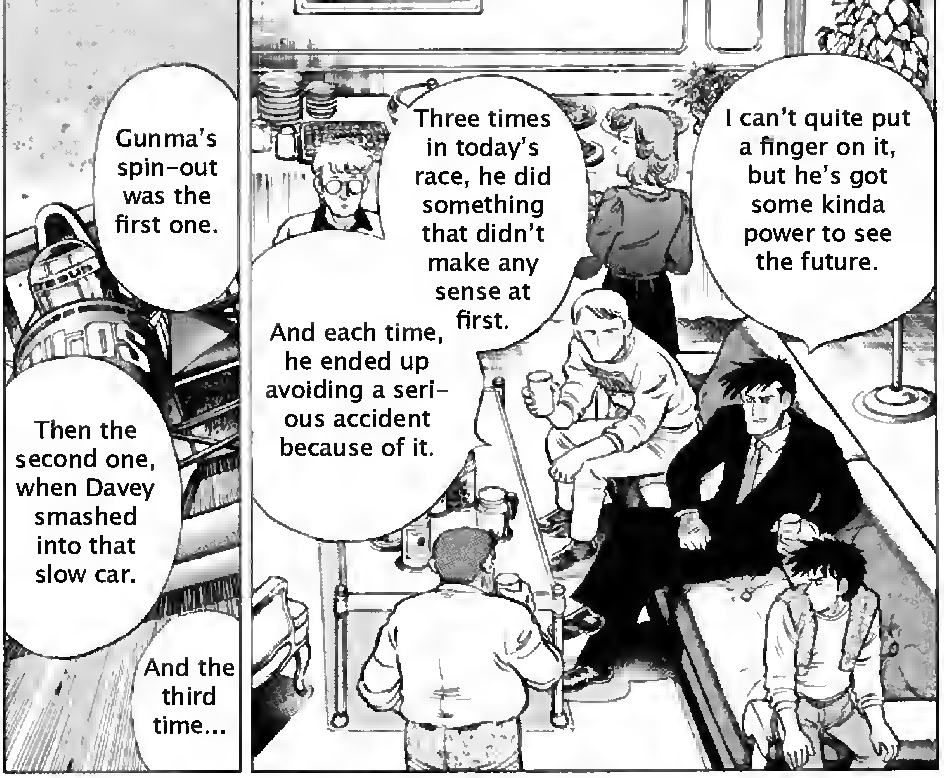

Where do you think Junko could be?

Let's go inside.
...she found a guy she likes at the circuit.
I bet ...
She just vanished during the race, and still ain't back.

Ain't you even worried about Junko!?
Gu...
Gunma...


I'd be out there lookin' for her instead of sittin' around drinkin' the night away!
If I was you... If I was you...
No big deal in Japan, but way out here in England... a helpless, beautiful young lady out all by herself...
It's already 8 o'clock!
...and she still ain't back at this hour!
Dude's drunk as a skunk.
Junkoooo...!
WOOSH
Dude... Chill out.

It means what it means.
What the hell's that supposed to mean, Tamotsu? If you was me?
...
Like I said, if I was you...
Stop screwin' around! If yer so damn worried, get out there and find her yourself!
SKRRR
If I could switch places with you, Gunma, I'd be worryin' my tail off...
...and if Junko was deeply in love with me, like she loves you...
If I was deeply in love with Junko like you are...
Quit decidin' everything yourself.
BAM
...
What do you think of Jesus?

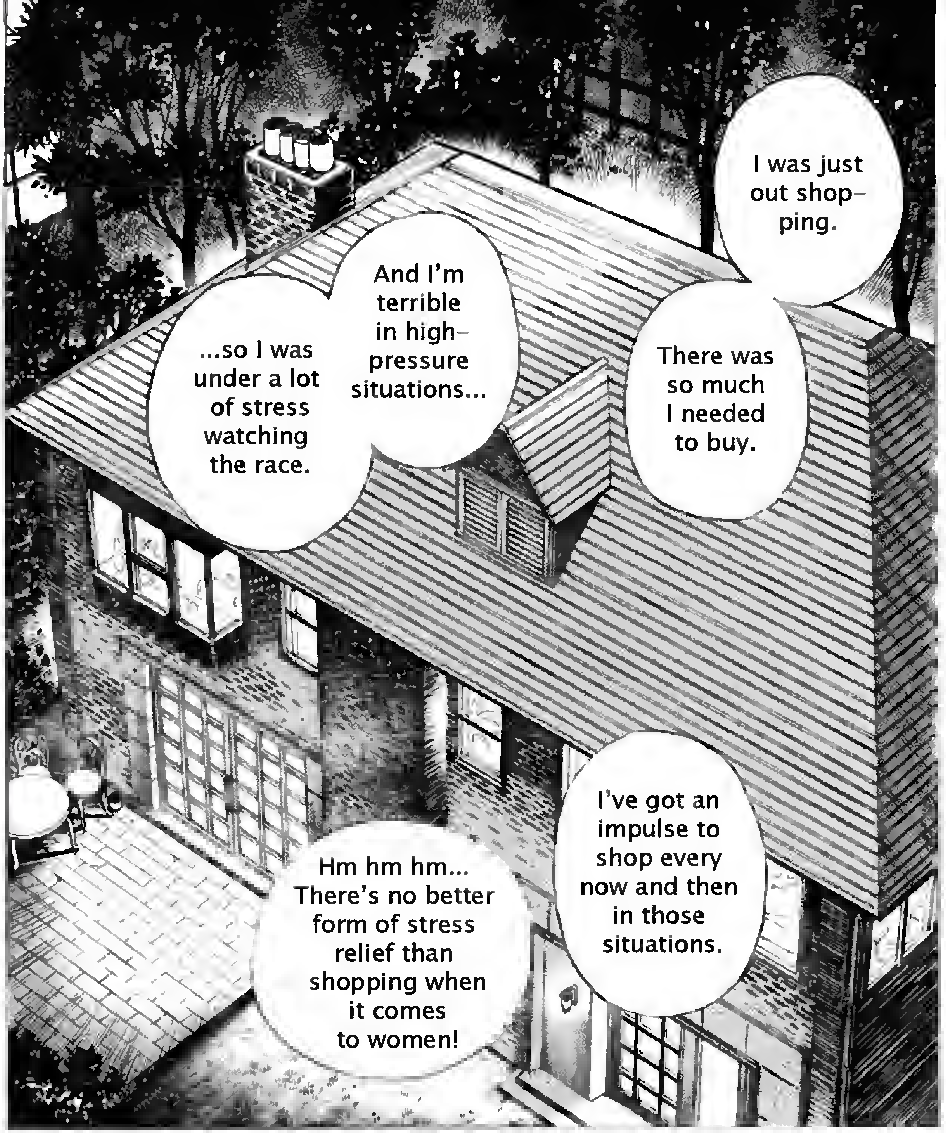

Gunma's spin-out was the first one.
Then the second one, when Davey smashed into that slow car.
And the third time...
Three times in today's race, he did something that didn't make any sense at first.
And each time, he ended up avoiding a serious accident because of it.
I can't quite put a finger on it, but he's got some kinda power to see the future.

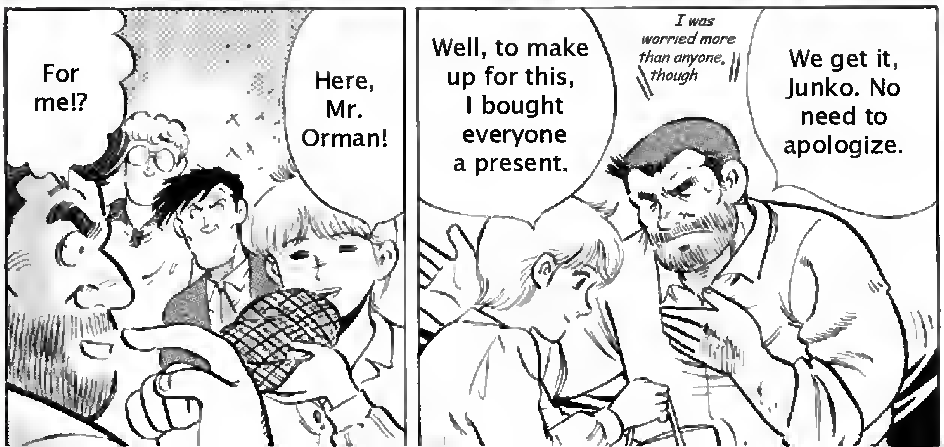
It's something the average person can't fathom.
I know of a few F1 drivers who can miraculously evade accidents by reading the crowd.
Kuroi, I disagree with you on this.

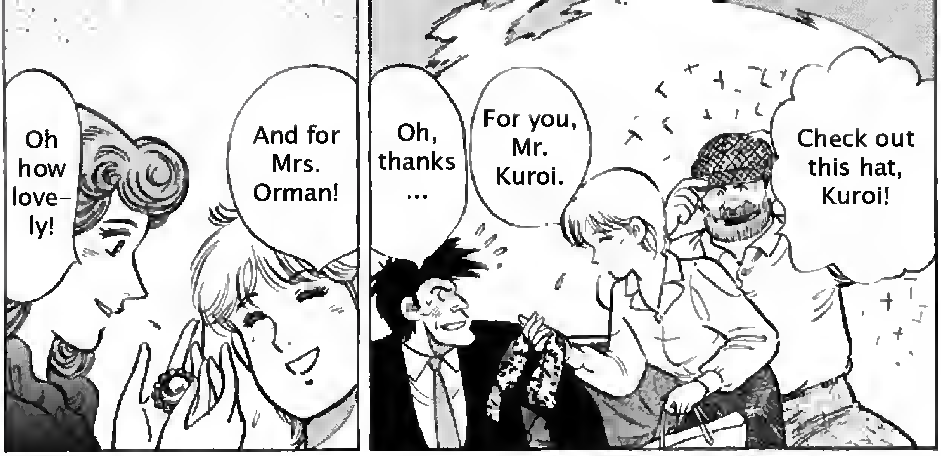
We were pretty close, and I certainly hope the operation is a success.
When I called the hospital they said it's nothing life threatening, but they're still operating.
I hope he's okay after that accident.
What happened to Davey?

I mean, if he has some supernatural way of telling the...
Don't be ridiculous!
Let's say Jesus does have some sort of special ability.
Don't you think the FIA would be concerned?
Anyone capable of driving at speeds of more than 300 km/hr has a special ability in my book!
Huh?
PAT
You want danger? We got it right here!
I think he's danger-rous.
...I don't like him.
Well, I mean...
What do you think of Jesus, Gunma?

DING
DONG
What? N...no it ain't.
THUNK
This fellow's mind is on other things, namely Junko.
That's all he cares about right now!
Ha ha ha ha ha! You don't like him! Brilliant response!
Sorry I'm so late.
Harrods
Junko is back, everyone!

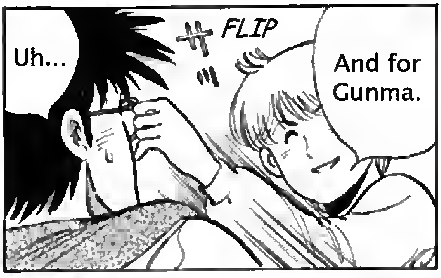

I was just out shop-ping.
There was so much I needed to buy.
And I'm terrible in high-pressure situations...
...so I was under a lot of stress watching the race.
I've got an impulse to shop every now and then in those situations.
Hm hm hm... There's no better form of stress relief than shopping when it comes to women!

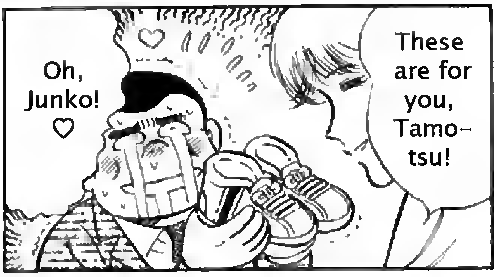

For me!?
Here, Mr. Orman!
Well, to make up for this, I bought everyone a present.
I was worried more than anyone, though
We get it, Junko. No need to apologize.

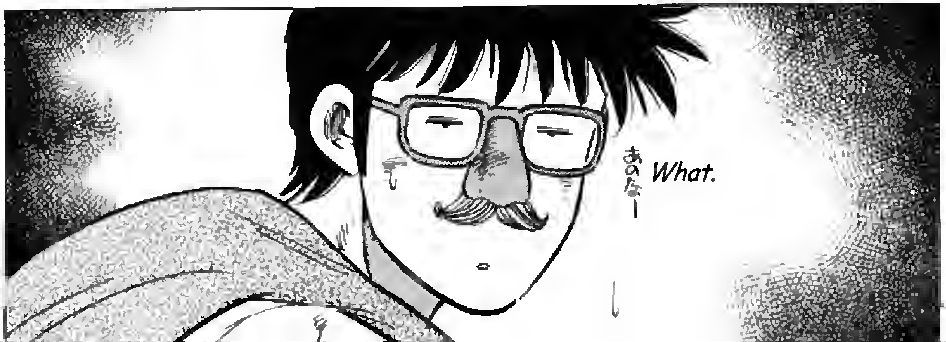

Oh how lovely!
And for Mrs. Orman!
Oh, thanks ...
For you, Mr. Kuroi.
Check out this hat, Kuroi!

You look dashing yourself, Mr. Kuroi.
You look stunning in that, Mrs. Orman.

Even for us? Wow! You shouldn't have!
Thurwods


Uh...
FLIP
And for Gunma.


Oh, Junko! ♡
These are for you, Tamotsu!


あのな！
What.

HA HA HA
HA
They're a perfect fit!
...
Now that takes the cake!
They look great on you, Gunma.
It's just... It's so funny.
You okay, Junko?

...?
HEH
...
は！
はは…
HA HA HA
It's so funny it's making me cry.

So hilari-ous...
It's just so hilarious...
What's wrong, Junko?

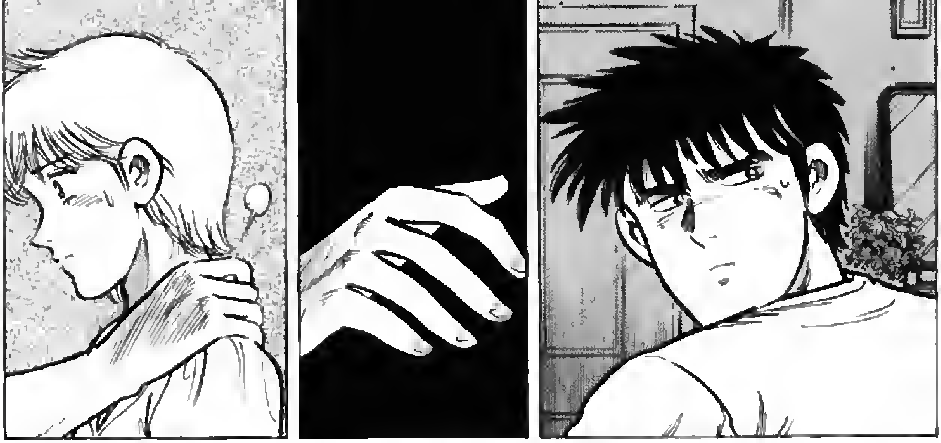
Junko...

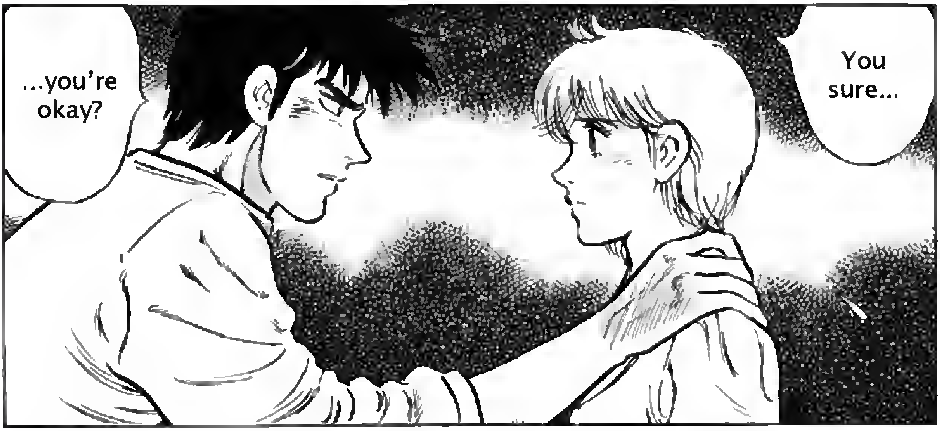
I'm sorry for crying like that.
...
Did some-thing happen?
I'm fine now. I don't know what got into me.
Really.
Oh...
...it's nothing.
Okay.
Hmm...

Yeah, I'll tell 'em.
I'm going to change before I go back down. You go on ahead.
Tell everyone I'm fine.

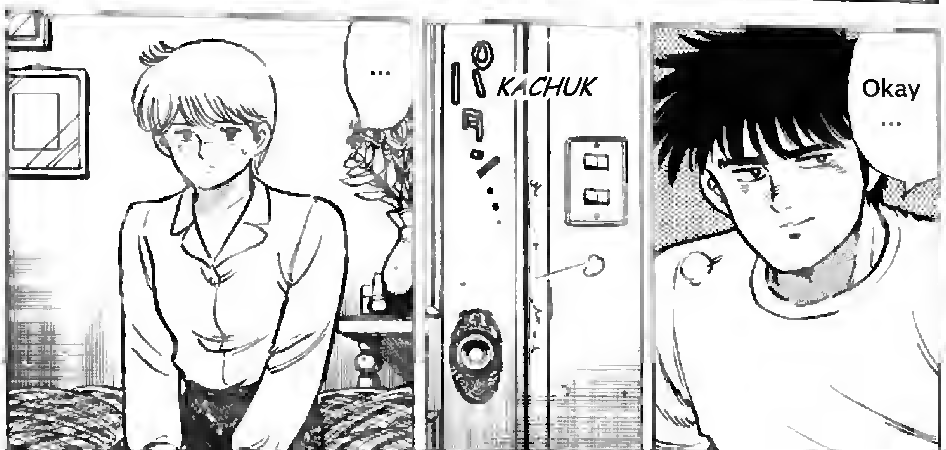
Take me...
... Gunma.

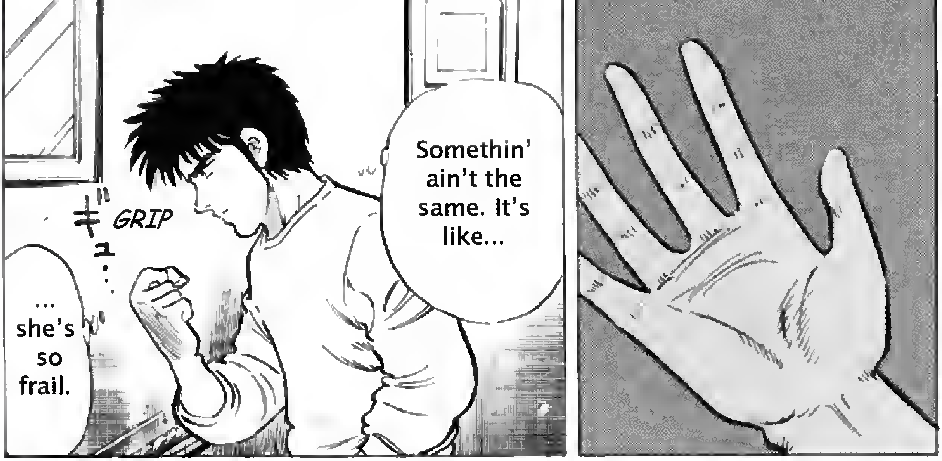
...to make love to me.
I want you...

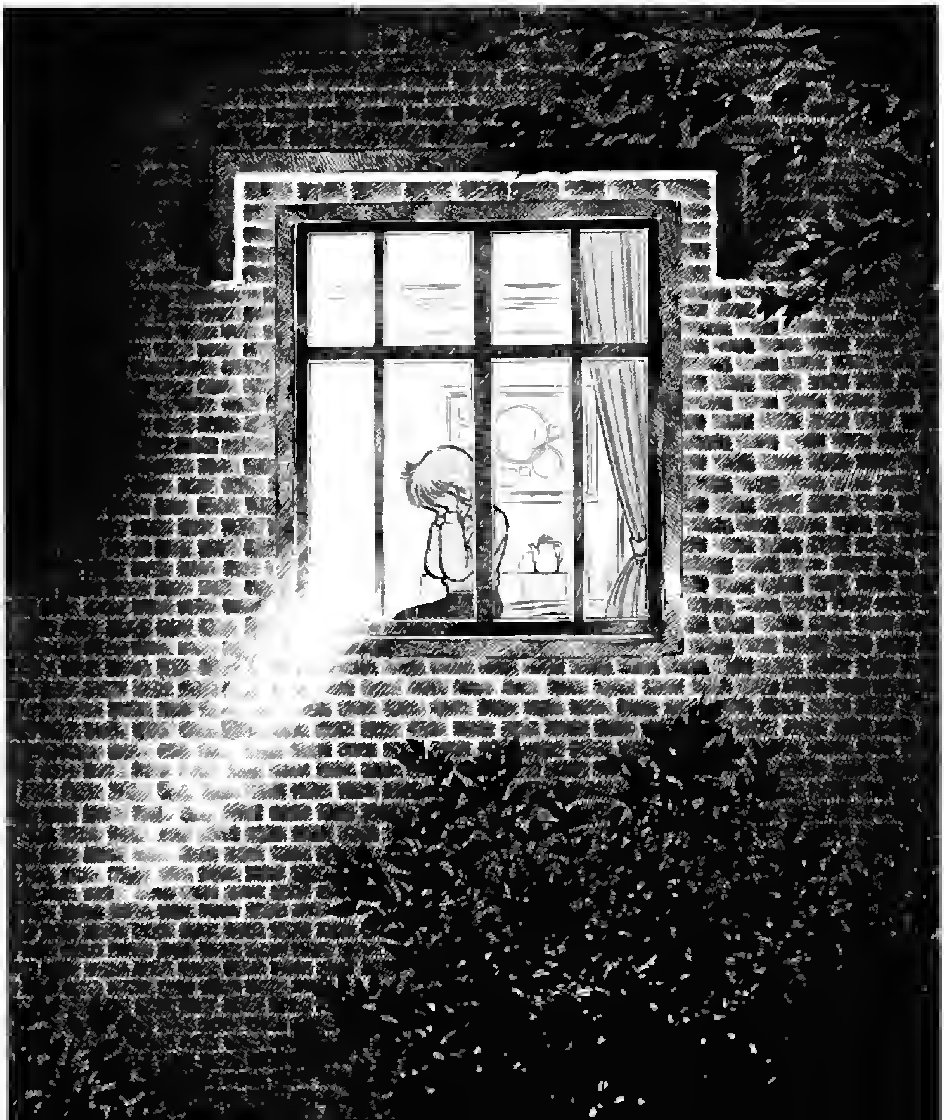



...you're okay?
You sure...

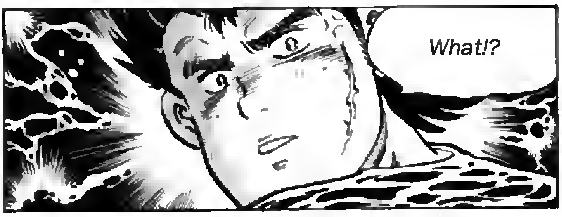
Peace.
ピース
Uh-huh.

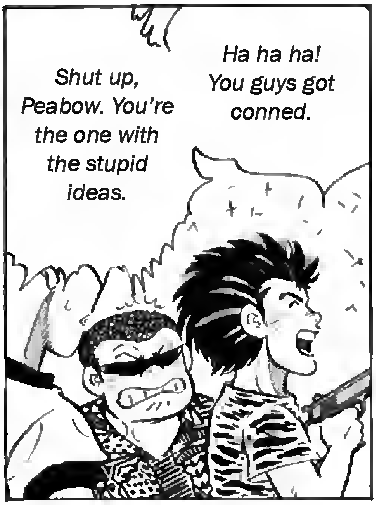

...
KACHUK
Okay ...

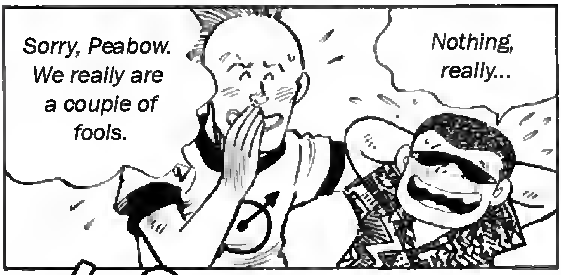

Somethin' ain't the same. It's like...
GRIP
... she's so frail.

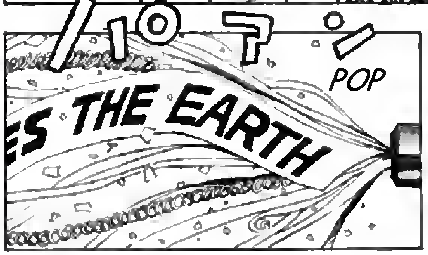


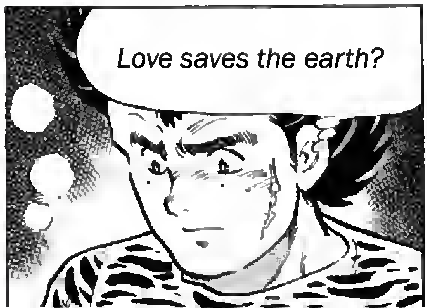
For treatin' us like babies!
With this stupid toy pistol...
We'll track down that stupid old geezer and beat the hell out of him!

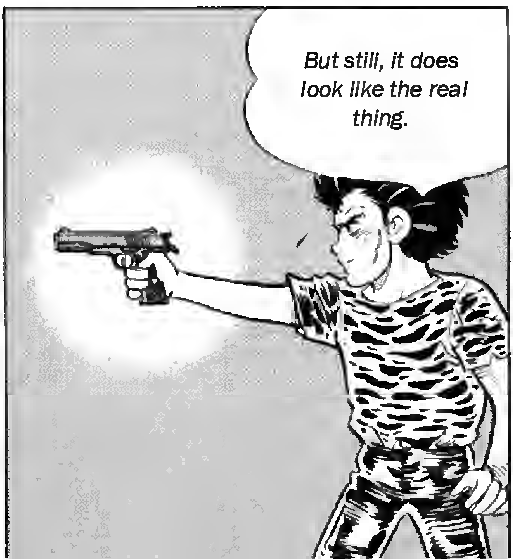

What!?


Shut up, Peabow. You're the one with the stupid ideas.
Ha ha ha! You guys got conned.


Sorry, Peabow. We really are a couple of fools.
Nothing, really...

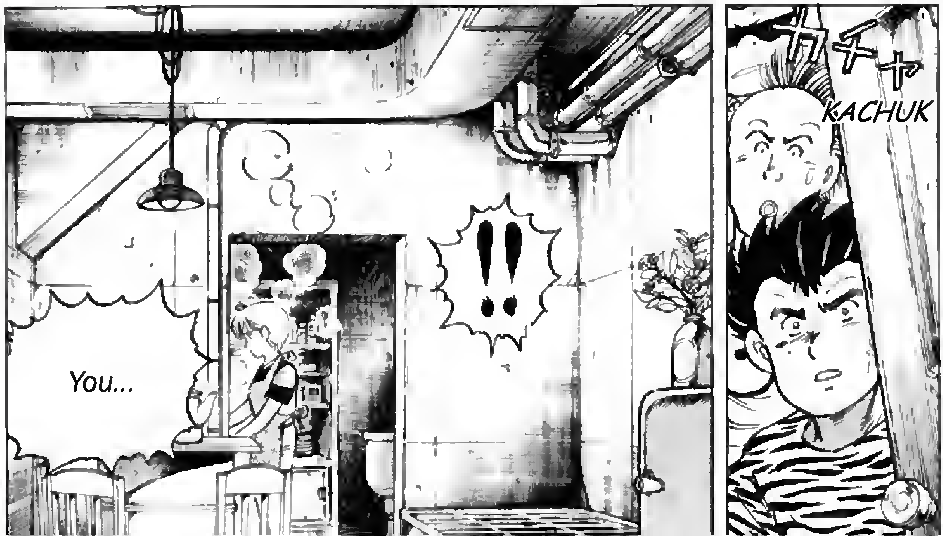

POP
S THE EARTH


Love saves the earth?


But still, it does look like the real thing.

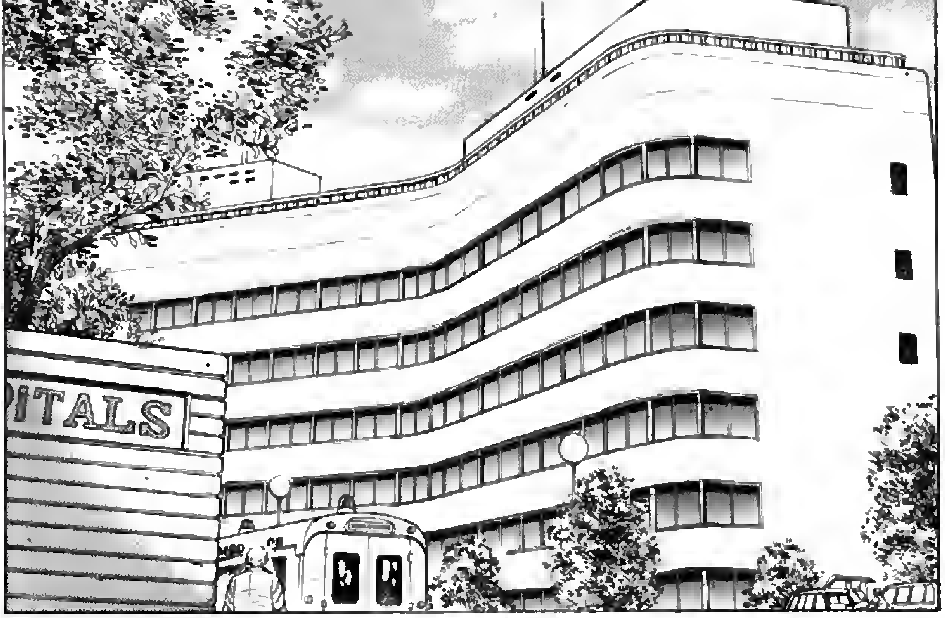
It doesn't save anything. Not a damn thing.
KRSHH
LOVE & EARTH

What's all this?
What the hell is going on here?
!?


You...
!!
KACHUK

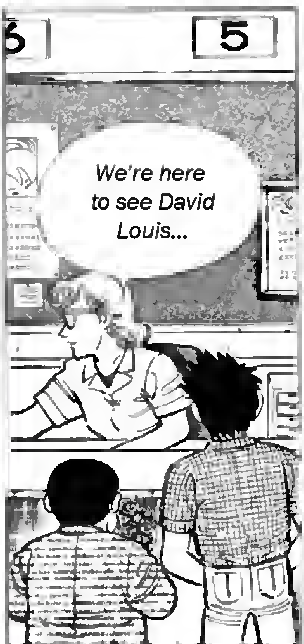
Junko! I told you to never come back here!
I say we do her, Peabow.
Yeah, let's jump her!
.....
Here! Clean up that mattress!
What!?
This place is a dump! And it's about time you boys tidy it up!
I'm also making some delicious stew, so if you want some, you'll earn it!
What's going on here?
.....
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT
.....
.....

Chapter 4: Legs


ITALS

STOMP
STOMP

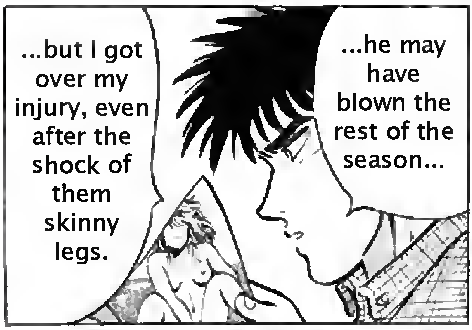
Raaaaa
aaah!!!


5
We're here to see David Louis...

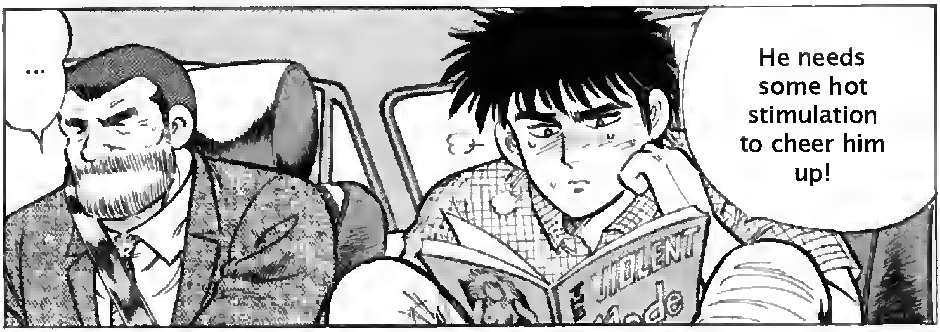
Raa
aaaa
aaa
...
DAVID LUIGI

He's a bit too... excited at the moment.
Why not!?
I'm sorry, but he's not allowed any visitors at this time.
...
Gun-ma...
Orman should've come just before us.
Excited!?
Well then...
It went fine.
He's in no shape to see anybody right now.
We'll come back later.
How come? Didn't the operation go well?
Orman..
We're going home.

There's nothin' we can do, Gunma.
Tsh, this sucks.
I even bought him a dirty magazine.


...but I got over my injury, even after the shock of them skinny legs.
...he may have blown the rest of the season...

But they said it went well!
I mean ...
He just had major surgery.

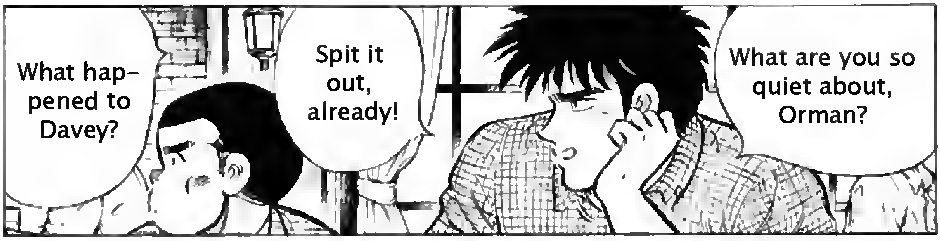

...
He needs some hot stimulation to cheer him up!

IRK

...

Come on, Orman!
Davey's a big pervert! A few minutes with this magazine and he'll be fine!

...
The Mow Hole
SLAM
Let's have a drink.


What happened to Davey?
Spit it out, already!
What are you so quiet about, Orman?

...!?

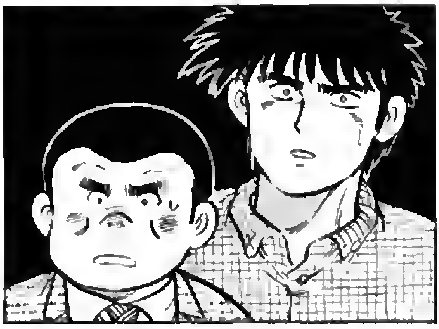
Both his legs ...
...are gone.

A whole lotta broken bones?
Was the operation that serious?
He didn't break his pelvis like me, did he?

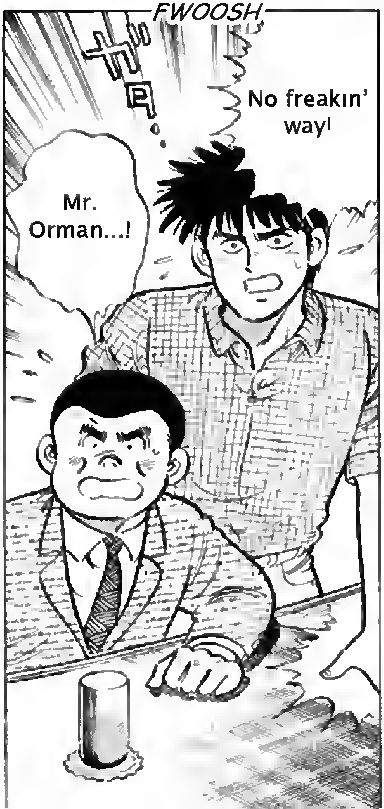
...gone from the knee down.
Both of 'em...

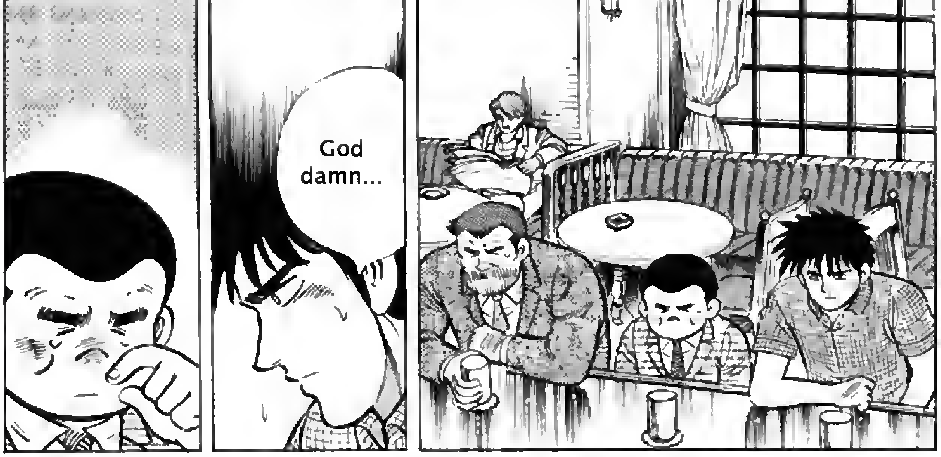
KOP
コト…

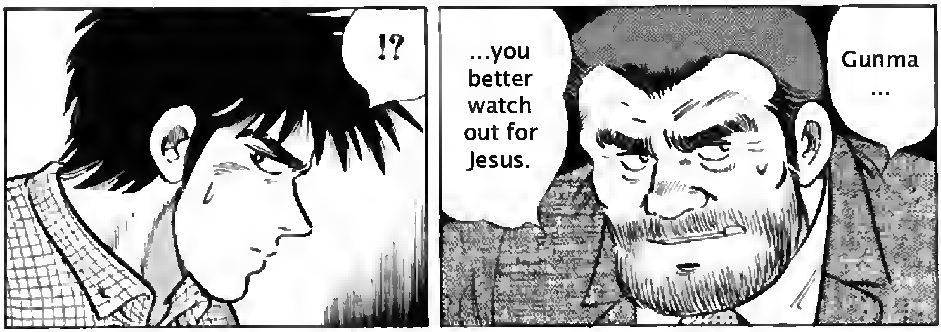
No way they could've been restored. The doc said they had to amputate.
They were shattered to bits.



Both legs ampu-tated...

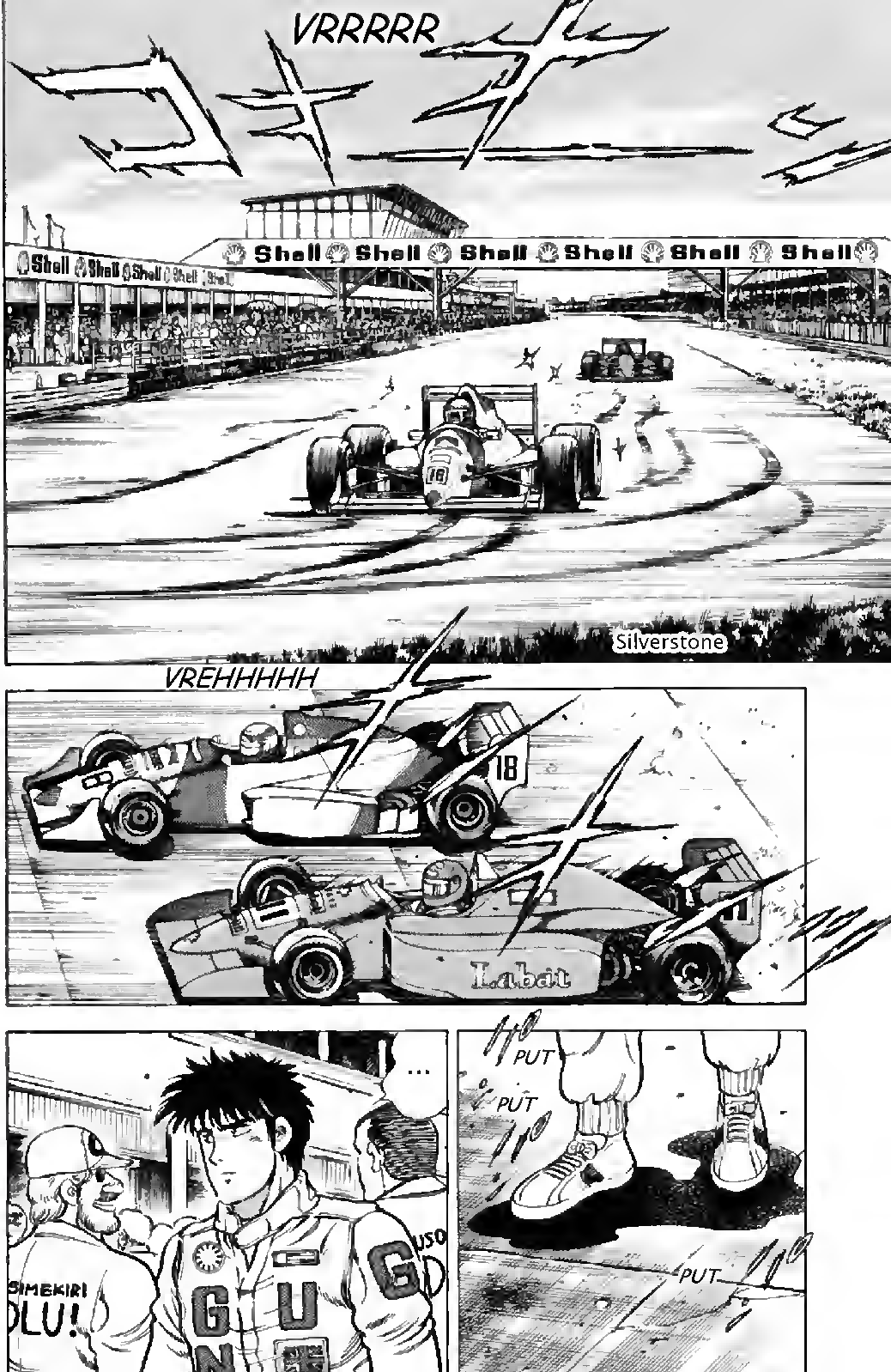

FWOOSH
No freakin' way!
Mr. Orman...!


God damn...


!?
...you better watch out for Jesus.
Gunma ...

Yeah, like what?
I haven't bought into Kuroi's theory...
...but there's something about him.

...
A gift that lets him take advantage of dangerous situations, for his own good.
Maybe it's luck...
...or some kind of gift.


VRRRRR
Shell Shell Shell Shell Shell Shell
18
Silverstone
VREHHHHH
18
Labat
...
SIMEKIRI
LU!
GUSO
G U
N
PUT
PUT
PUT

...for his own good.

...to take advan-tage...

A gift ...

May 19

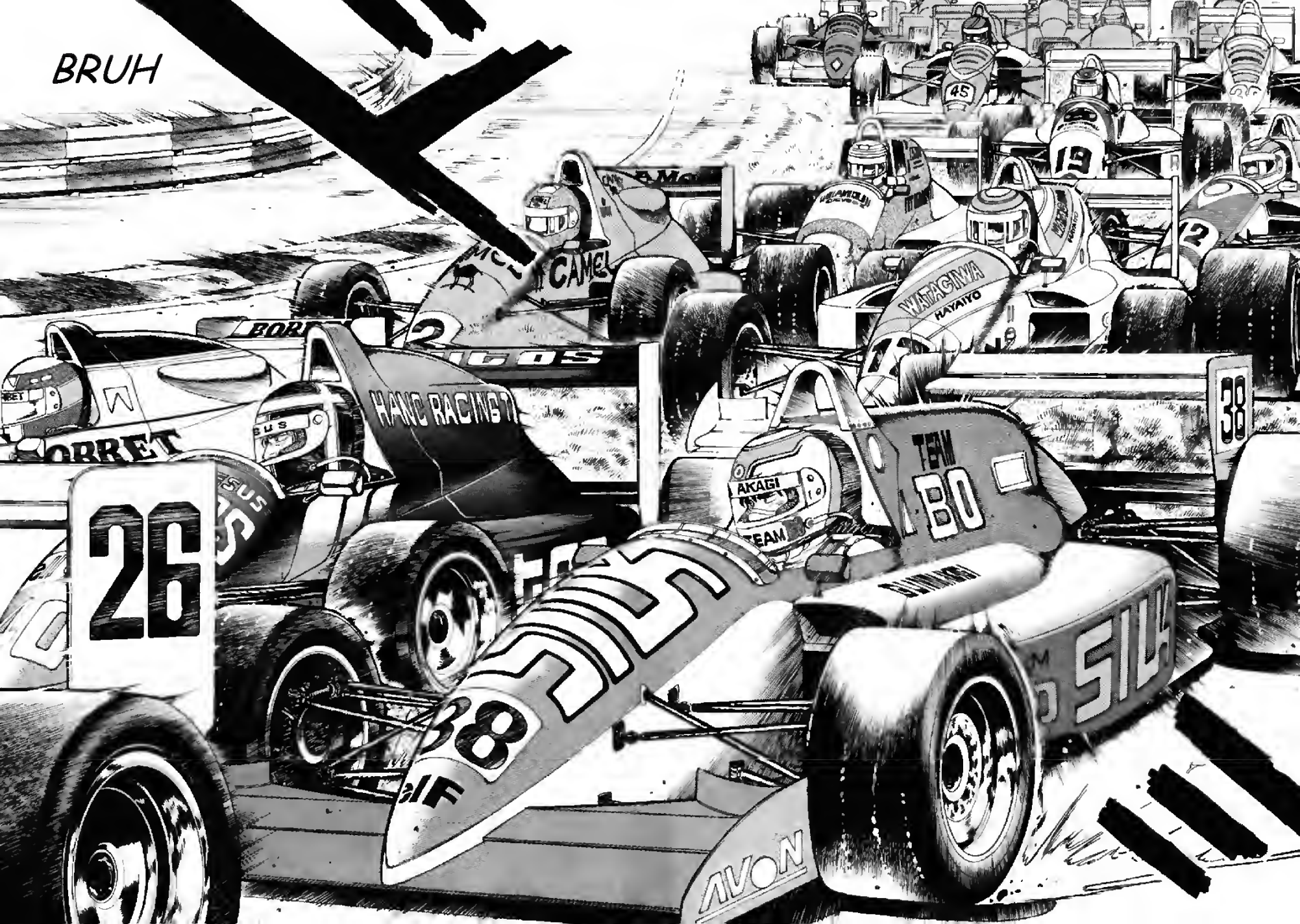
...

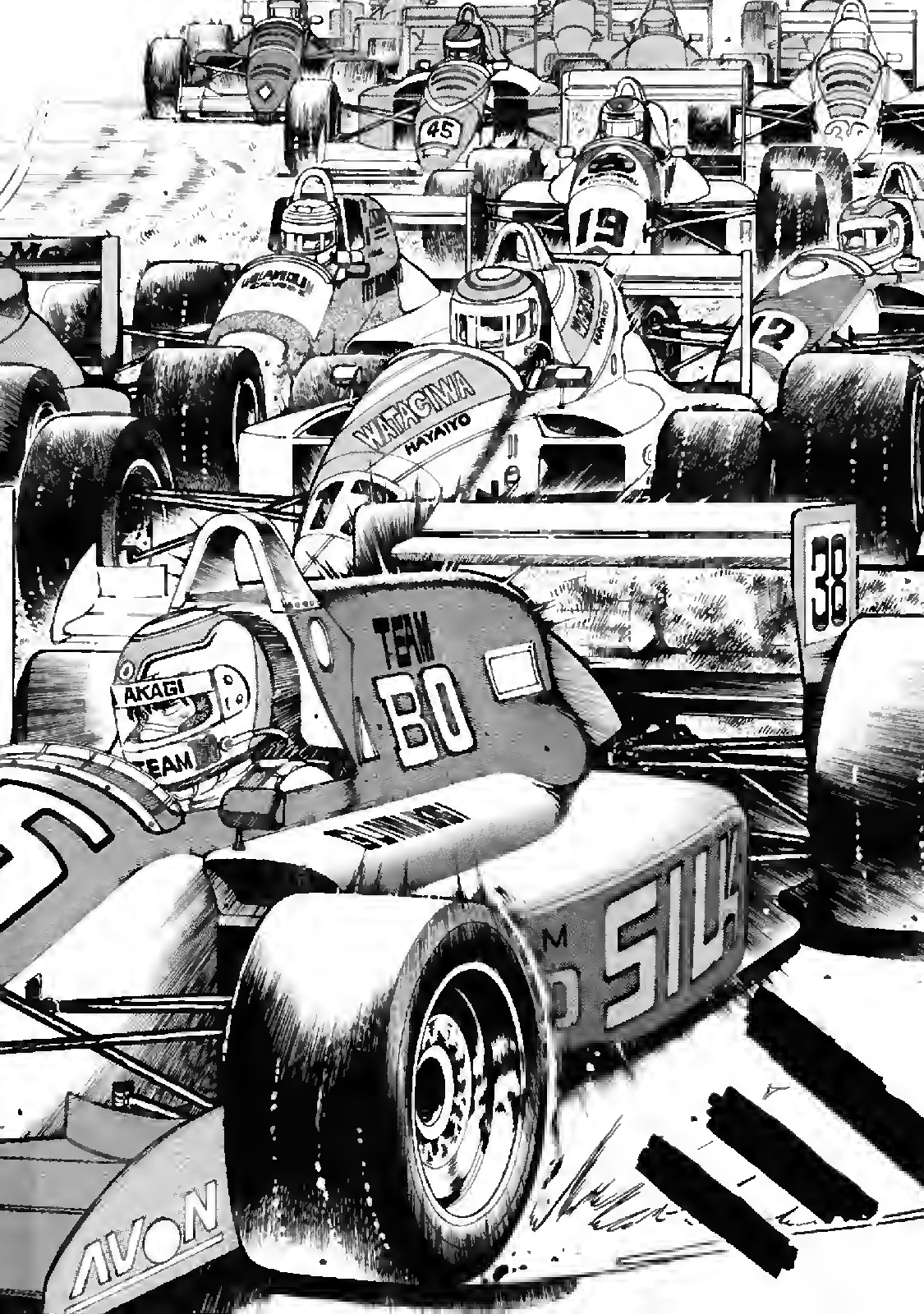
FAINOR

International F3000 Championship

Second Race

What's that all about?


BRUH
CAMEL
WATAGIWA
HAYAIYO
HANG RACING
TEAM
AKAGI
TEAM
BO
28
38
AVON

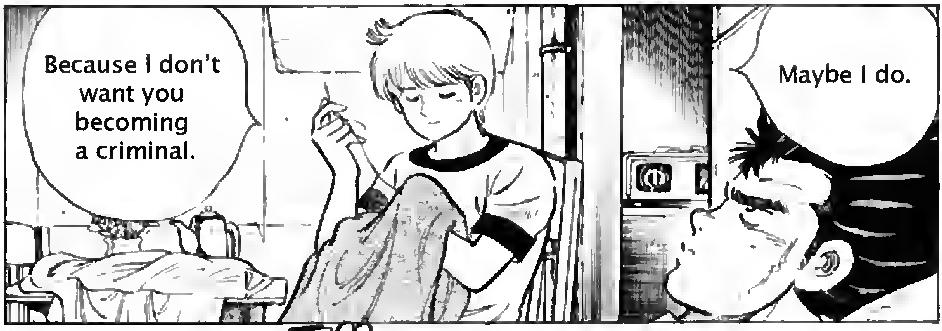

45
19
12
WAKAGIWA
HAYAIYO
38
TEAM
BO
AKAGI
AVON

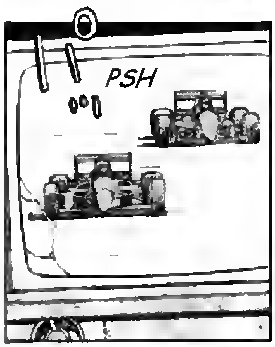
BRUH
CAMEL
HANG RACING 77
26
28

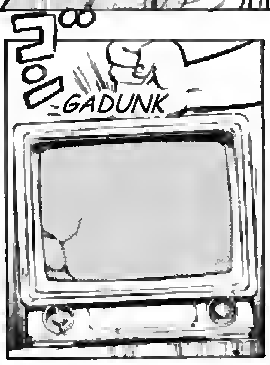
Oh...
Hey old man.
We're gonna kill you!
Get back here you crook! You sold us a toy pistol the other day!
Shut up! We won't fall for that again!
I'll sell you a real one this time! A genuine pistol, I promise!
I'm terribly sorry about that.
But it was only a joke.
.....
Look at these eyes!
I'm telling the truth, I know someone who has a real shooter. Please believe me, I don't want to die yet.
We don't get jokes, old man! We're famous for that!

Where are you going!?
Just wait while I fetch the seller.
Let's go in.
Right over here.
KACHIK
Don't ask me.
What do we do?
He just slipped out the back.
That old man has it.
!!
Show me the money.
So you're the blokes looking for a gun.

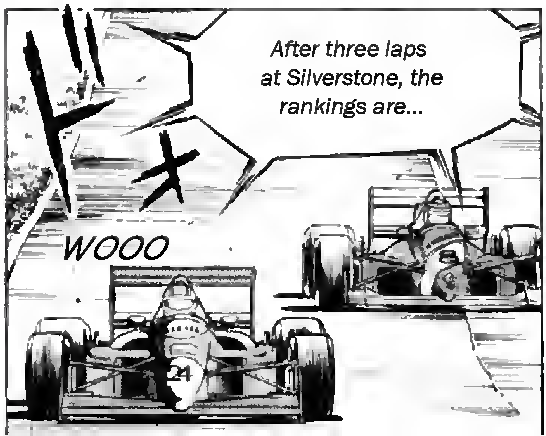
You want to stick around here and keep an eye on me.
I know what you're trying to do.


Because I don't want you becoming a criminal.
Maybe I do.

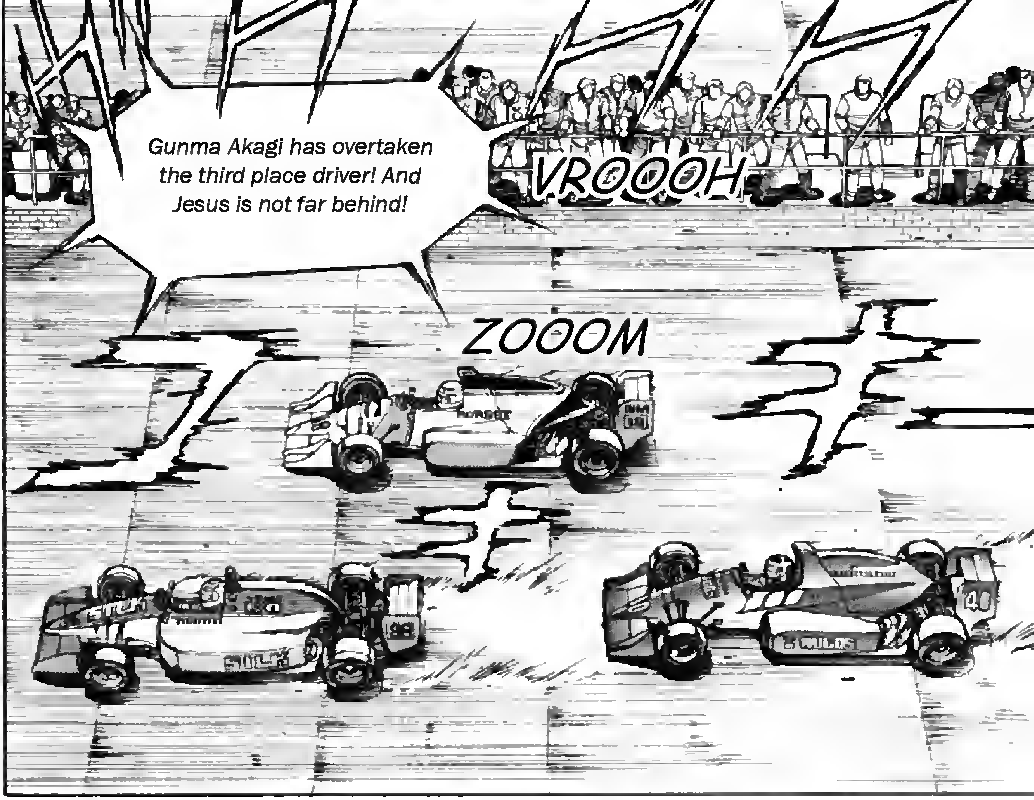

PSH

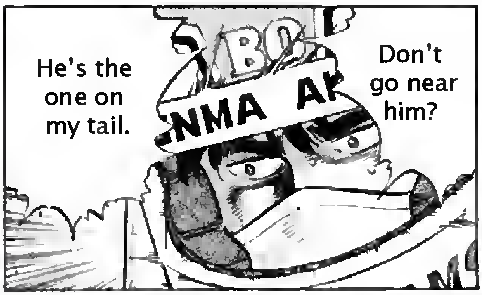

GADUNK

Anything else need to be sewed?
Fini-shed!
Tsh.


After three laps at Silverstone, the rankings are...
WOOO
21

Fourth
What place is he in?
I'm gonna kill Gunma, I swear it!
!!
Do you have one?
With a pis-tol.
How do you plan on killing him?
I dunno. About tenth or so.
What about Otoya Yama-guchi?
Gunma can drive at ease until then.
But I will soon.
Not yet.
Make some curry or some-thing.
Shut up.
Anything you want to eat, Peabow?
What should I make for dinner?

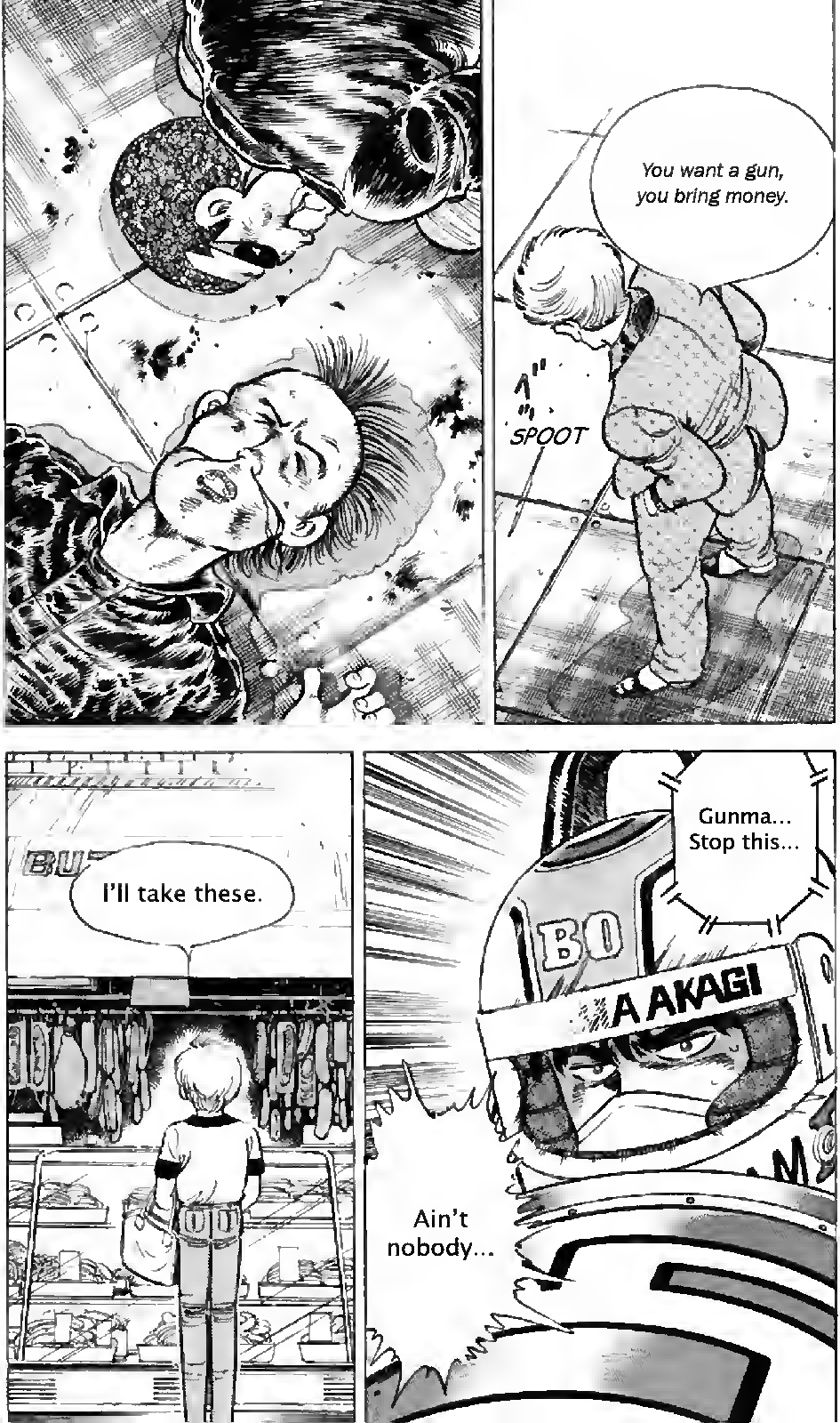

Gunma Akagi has overtaken the third place driver! And Jesus is not far behind!
VROOOH
ZOOOM


He's the one on my tail.
Don't go near him?

Don't go near him!
Gunma! Break away from Jesus!

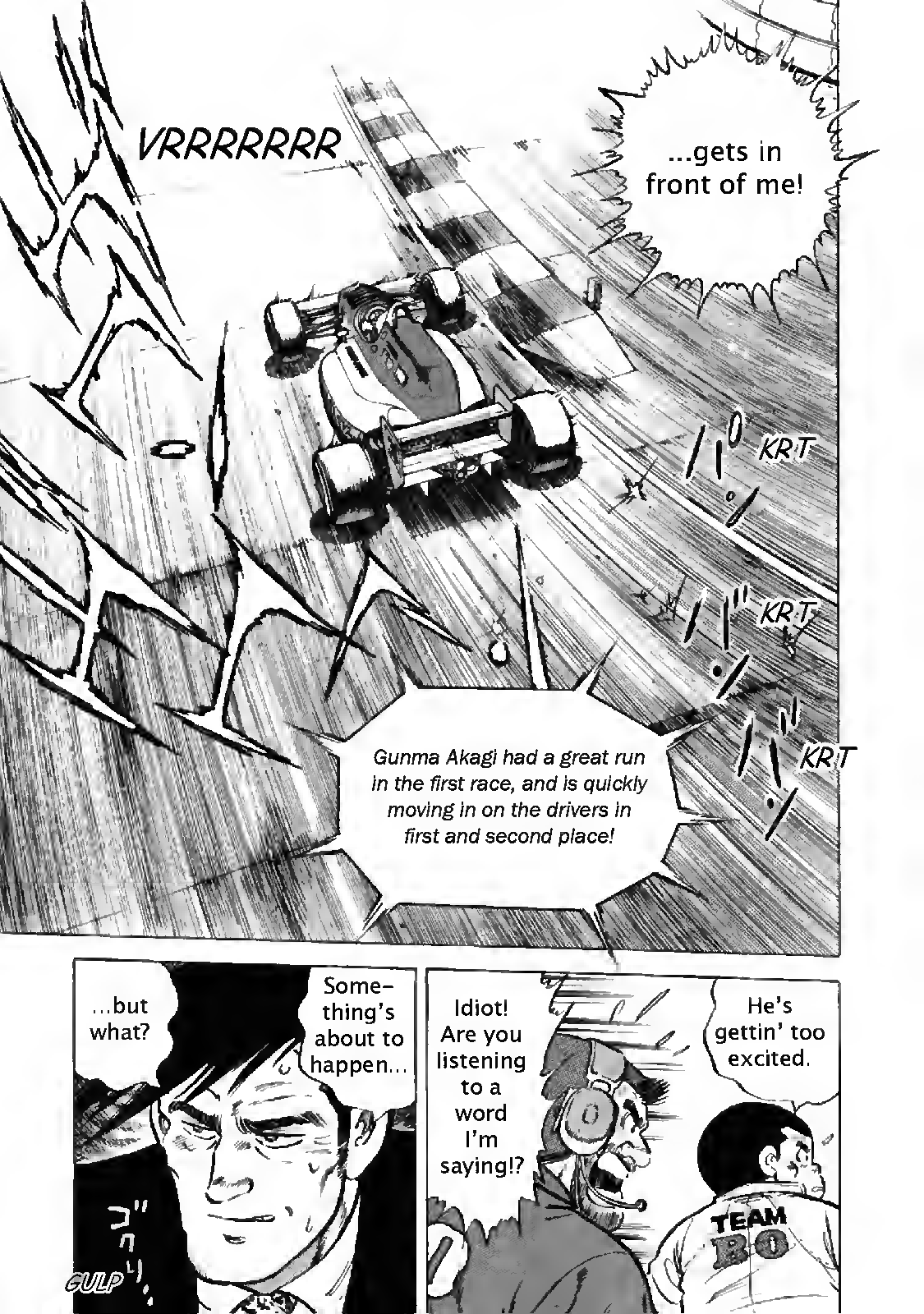
Engine trouble perhaps!?
What's this? Jesus has suddenly slowed down significantly!

What do you mean?
...!
This is bad. It's happening again!
shell
!?
...
...some-thing's about to happen!
If he can really gaze into the future...
Something about to happen!
Gunma! Slow down now!
Gunma ...
SHUK
Oh piss off!
VRRR
!
KAGI
TEA


You want a gun, you bring money.
SPOOT
I'll take these.
Gunma... Stop this...
AKAGI
Ain't nobody...

Chapter 5: Ripples

...something will probably happen just up ahead!
If he's not having car troubles.
VROOOH
BRAAAAH
Listen to me, Gunma! You need to slow down!
Right, if he just slowed down without any car troubles!
Now that Jesus has slowed down...
KSHHH
Urgh ...
Nobody...

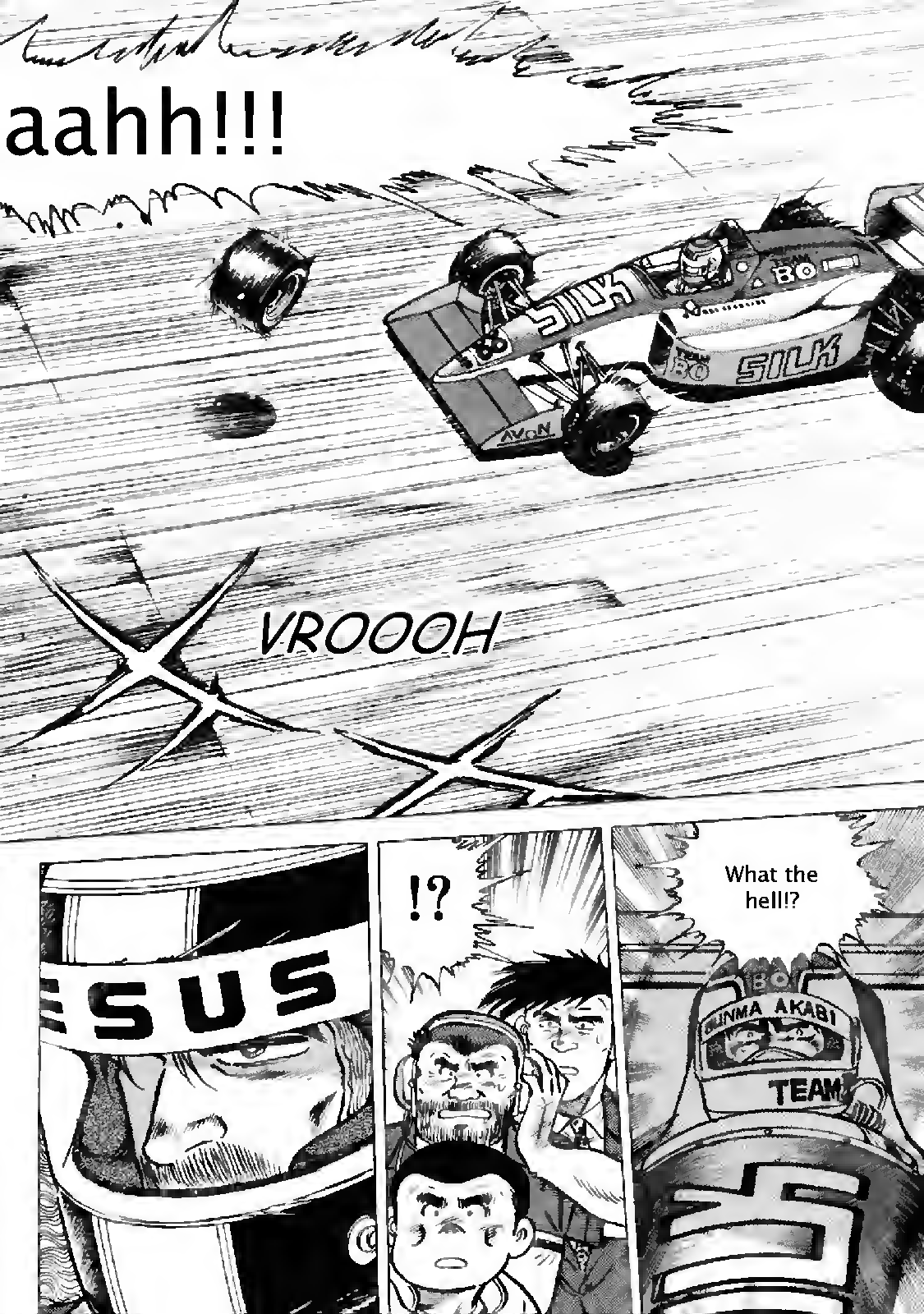

VRRRRRRR
...gets in front of me!
KRT
KRT
KRT
Gunma Akagi had a great run in the first race, and is quickly moving in on the drivers in first and second place!
...but what?
Some-thing's about to happen...
GULP
Idiot! Are you listening to a word I'm saying!?
He's gettin' too excited.
TEAM BO

ZOOOOM
We ain't got nothin' to worry about!
Comas and Kiesa are racin' fine in first and second...

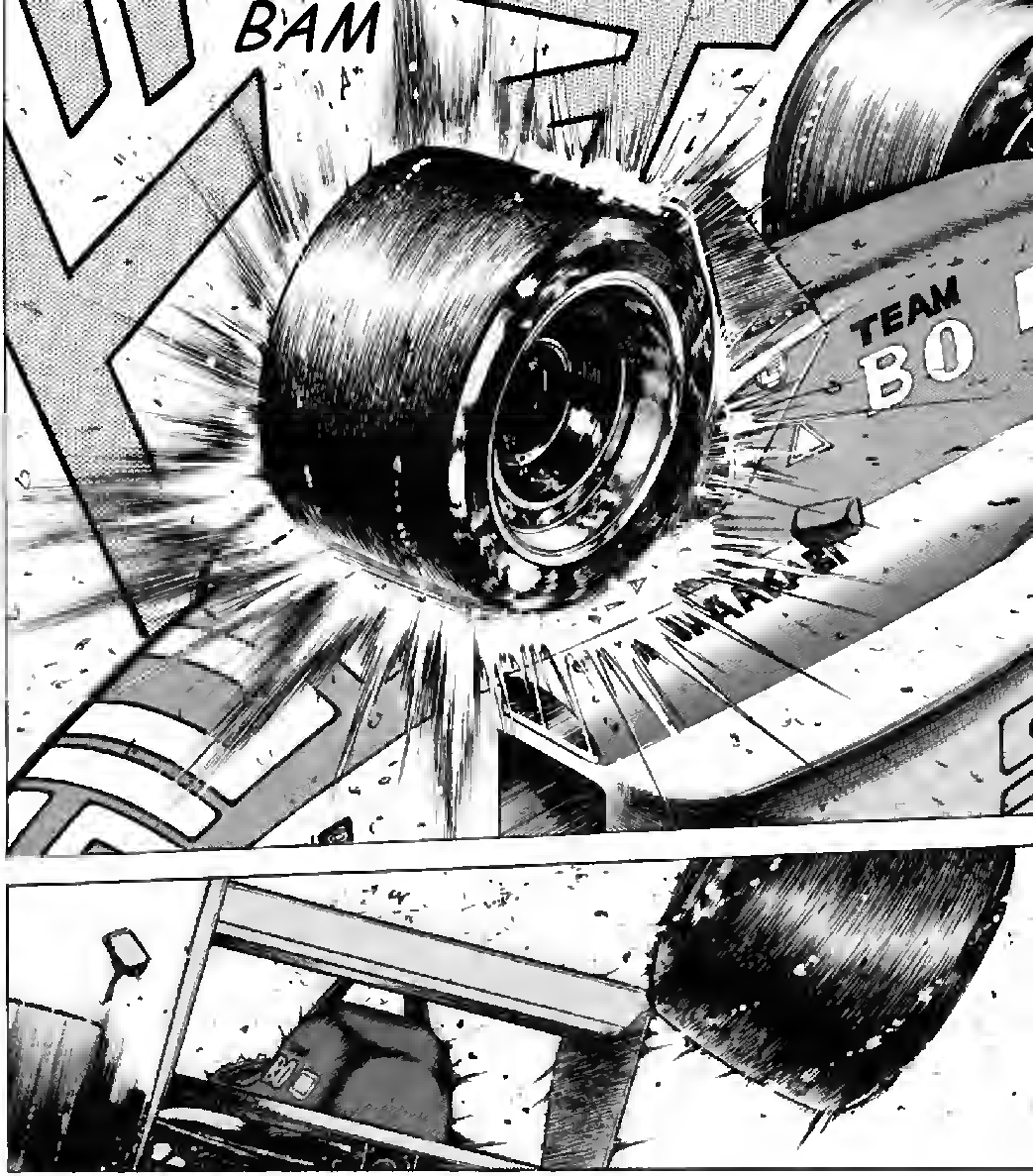
Jesus is just havin' a little car trouble!

KERBASH
BUNMA AKABI
Wha...

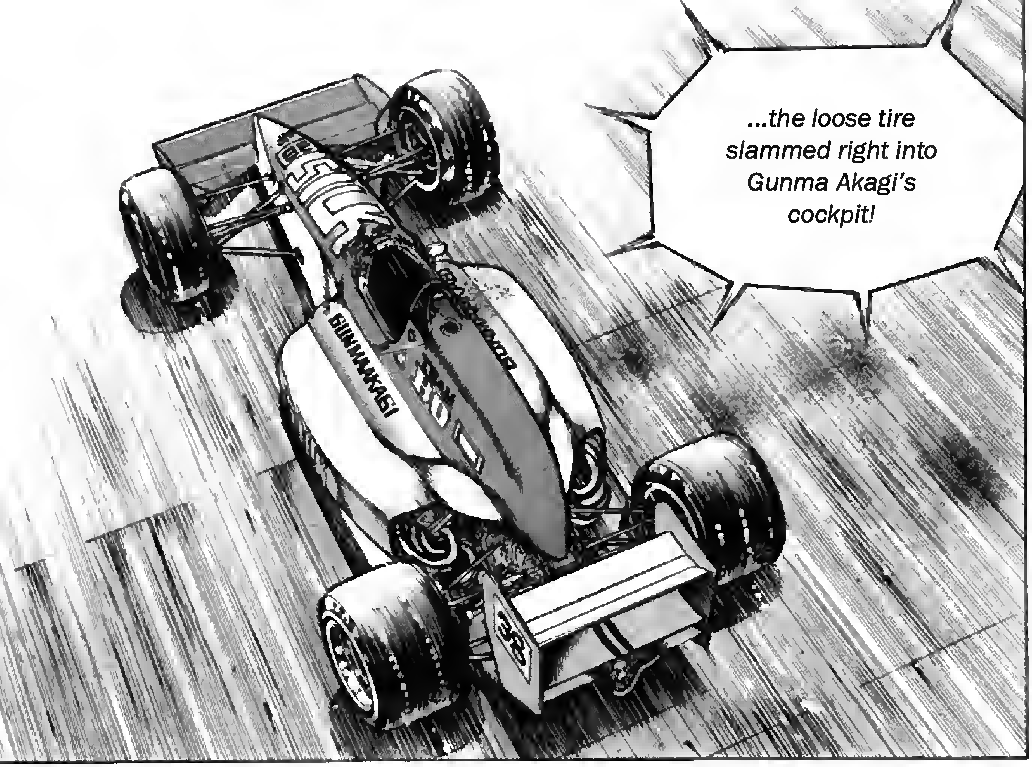
Raaaaaahh!!!
SCREECH
VROOOH
POK
ESUS
!?
What the hell!?
GUNMA AKABI
TEAM
SILK
AVON


aahh!!!
SILK
AVON
VROOOH
ESUS
!?
What the hell!?
GUNMA AKABI
TEAM

Raaaa
SCREECH
POK

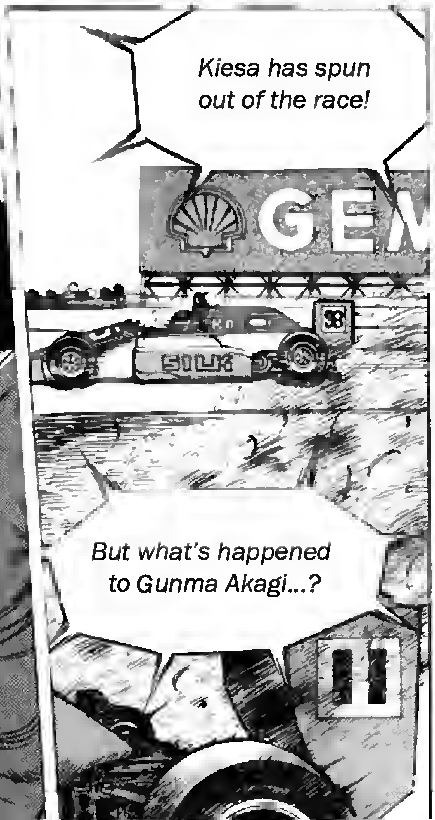

BAM
TEAM

A rear tire suddenly flew off of Kiesa's car!
And...
What on earth is happening!?

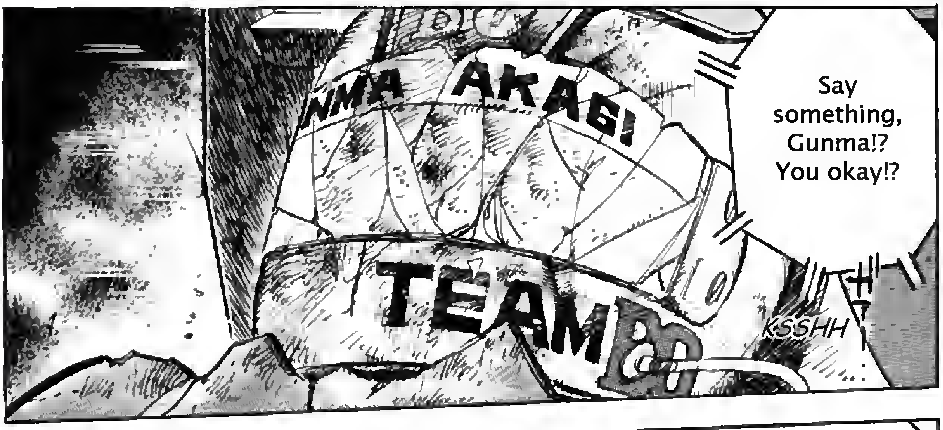

...the loose tire slammed right into Gunma Akagi's cockpit!
GUNMA AKAGI

Is Gunma Akagi okay? He's still racing...

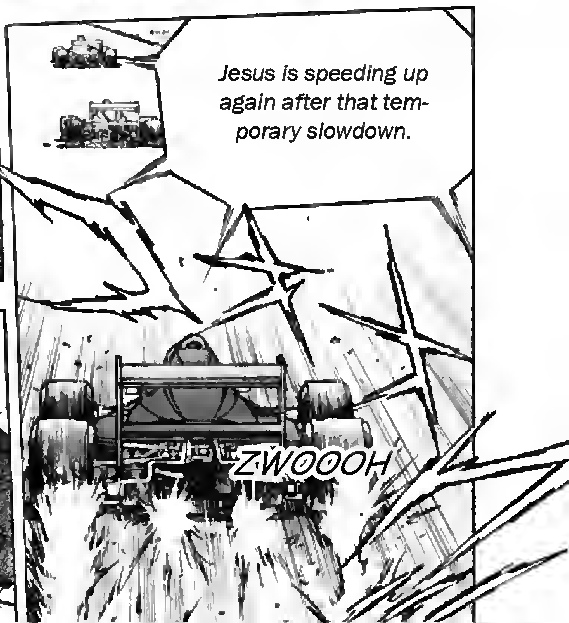
I knew something would happen.
Gun-ma!


Kiesa has spun out of the race!
But what's happened to Gunma Akagi...?

BEEP
Gunma!
Respond!
KSSHH
TEAM
80

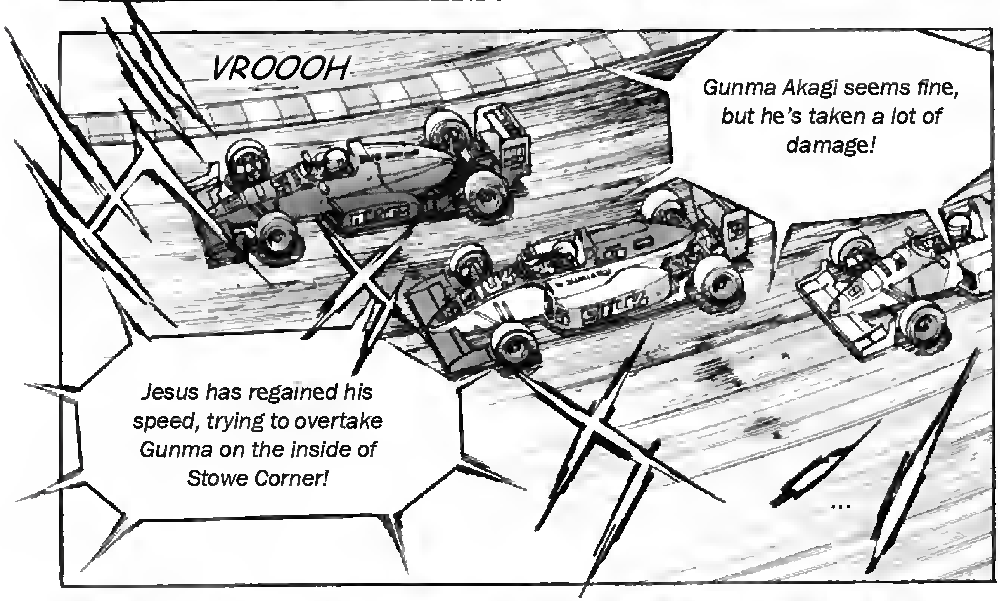

NMA AKAGI
TEAM
Say something, Gunma!? You okay!?
KSSHH

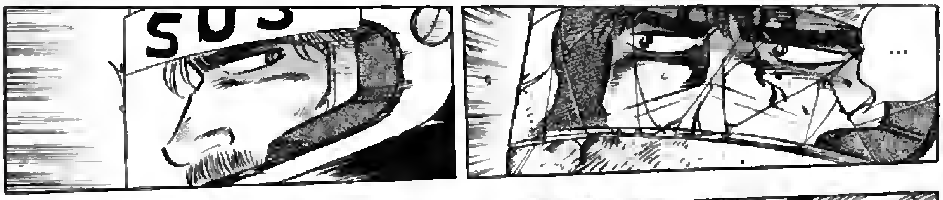
...TWITCH


Jesus is speeding up again after that temporary slowdown.
ZWOOOH

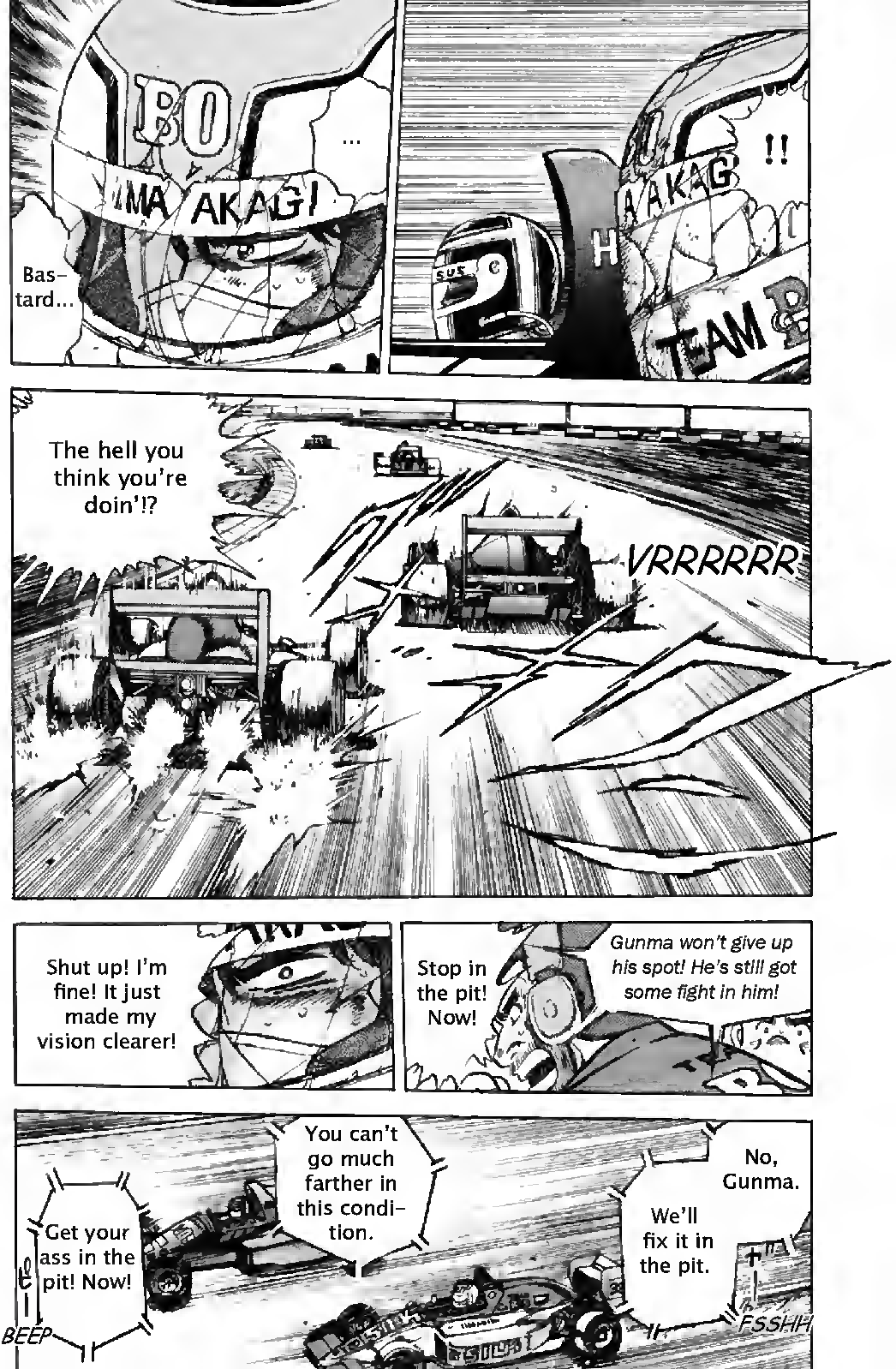
...

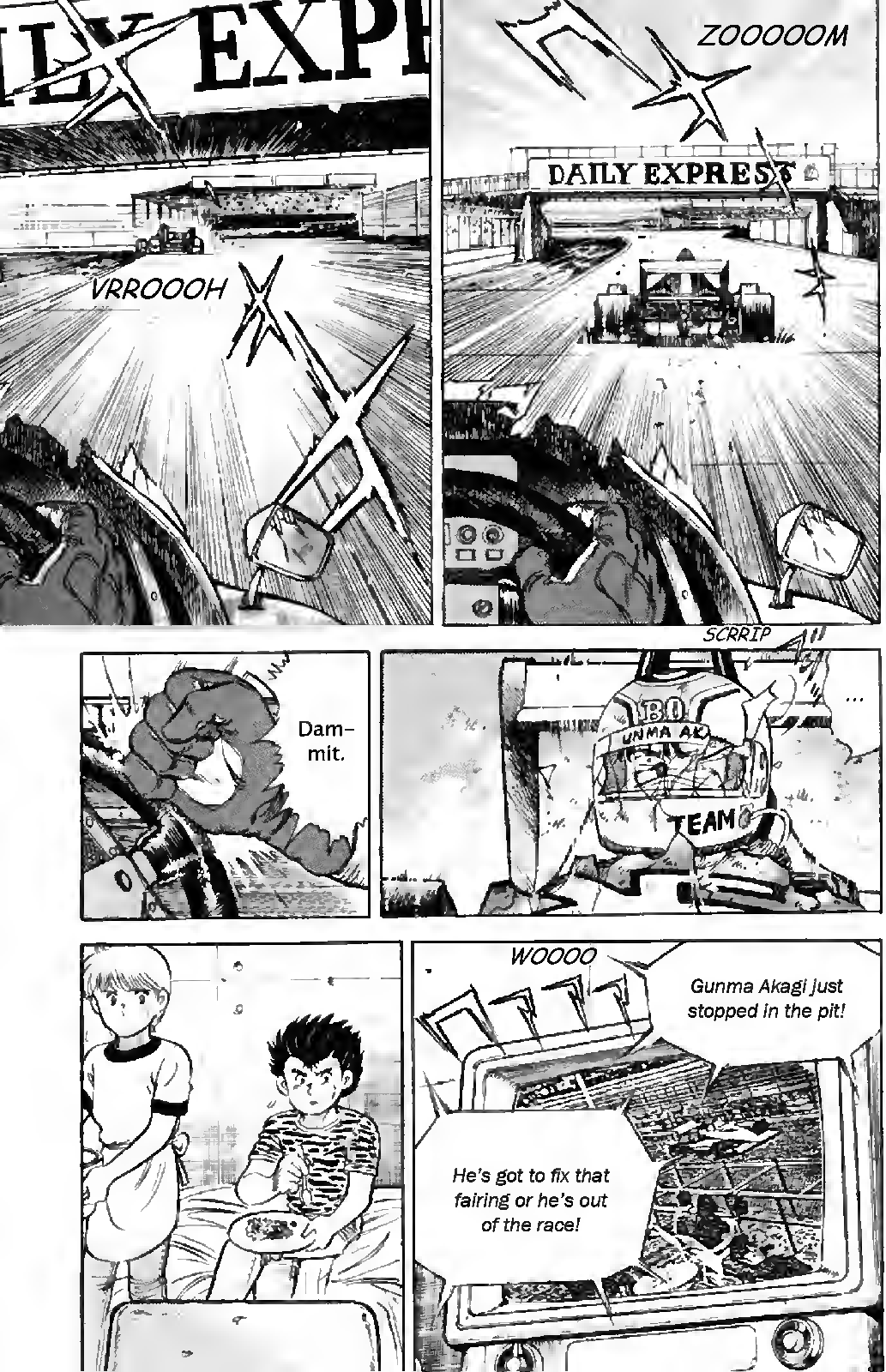
Come on...
...fasten your damn tires right...
Damn... A tire flew outta nowhere... and smacked right into me...

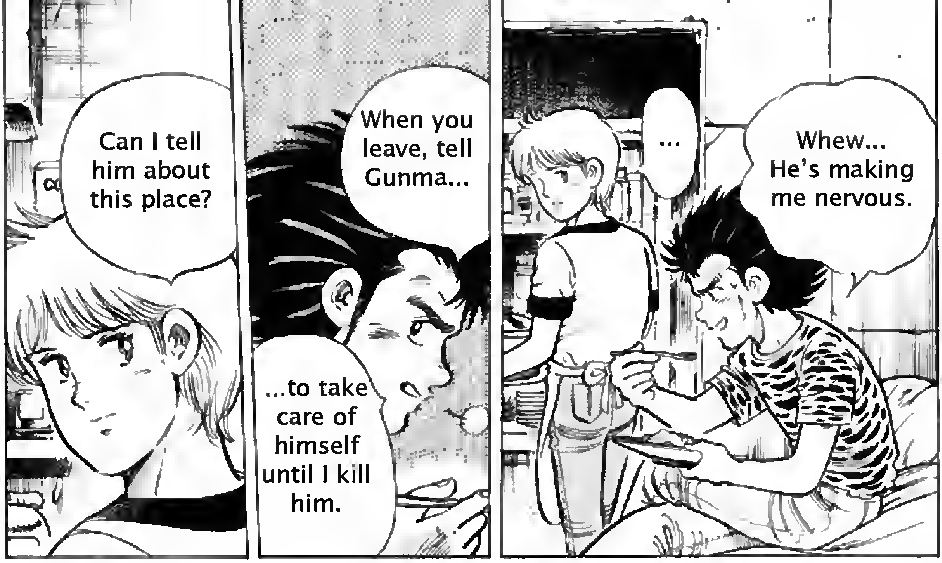

VROOOH
Gunma Akagi seems fine, but he's taken a lot of damage!
Jesus has regained his speed, trying to overtake Gunma on the inside of Stowe Corner!
...

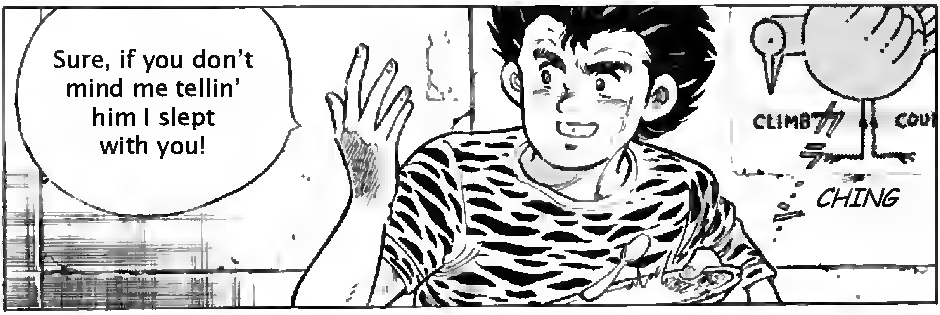

SUS
...

TAP
TE SUS

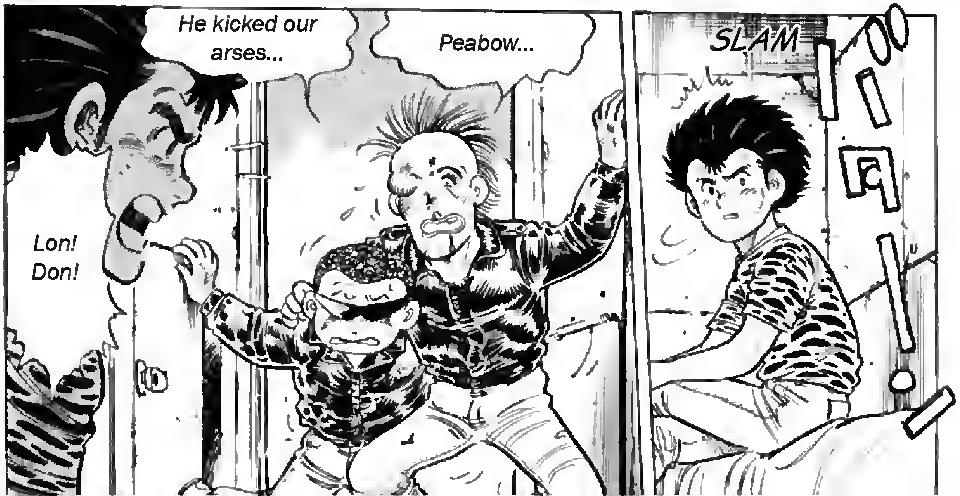

BO
...
MA AKAG!
Bas-
tard...
!!
AAKAG
H
TEAM
The hell you think you're doin'!?
VRRRRRR
Shut up! I'm fine! It just made my vision clearer!
Stop in the pit! Now!
Gunma won't give up his spot! He's still got some fight in him!
You can't go much farther in this condi-tion.
Get your ass in the pit! Now!
BEEP
No, Gunma.
We'll fix it in the pit.
FSSHH

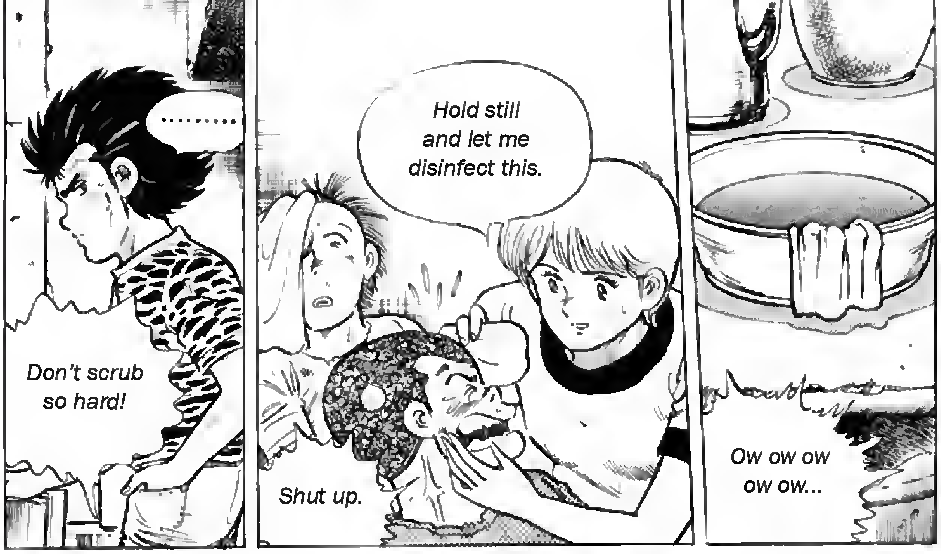

VRROOOH
ZOOOOOM
DAILY EXPRESS
Dam–
mit.
SCRRIP
...
TEAM
WOOOO
Gunma Akagi just stopped in the pit!
He's got to fix that fairing or he's out of the race!

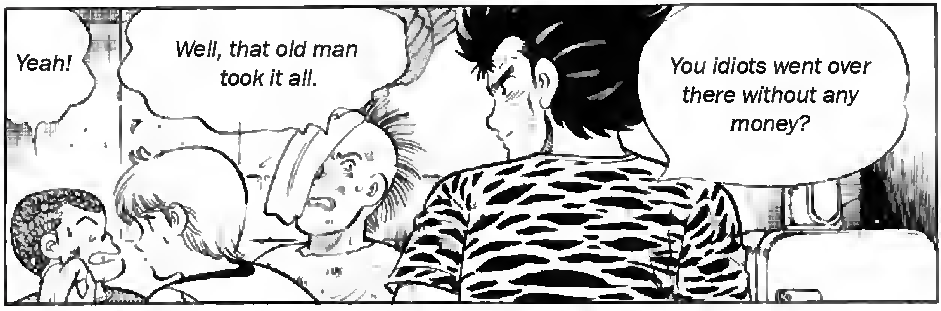

Can I tell him about this place?
When you leave, tell Gunma...
...to take care of himself until I kill him.
...
Whew... He's making me nervous.


Sure, if you don't mind me tellin' him I slept with you!
CLIMB
CHING

If that's okay with you, bring him over. Heh heh heh...
...

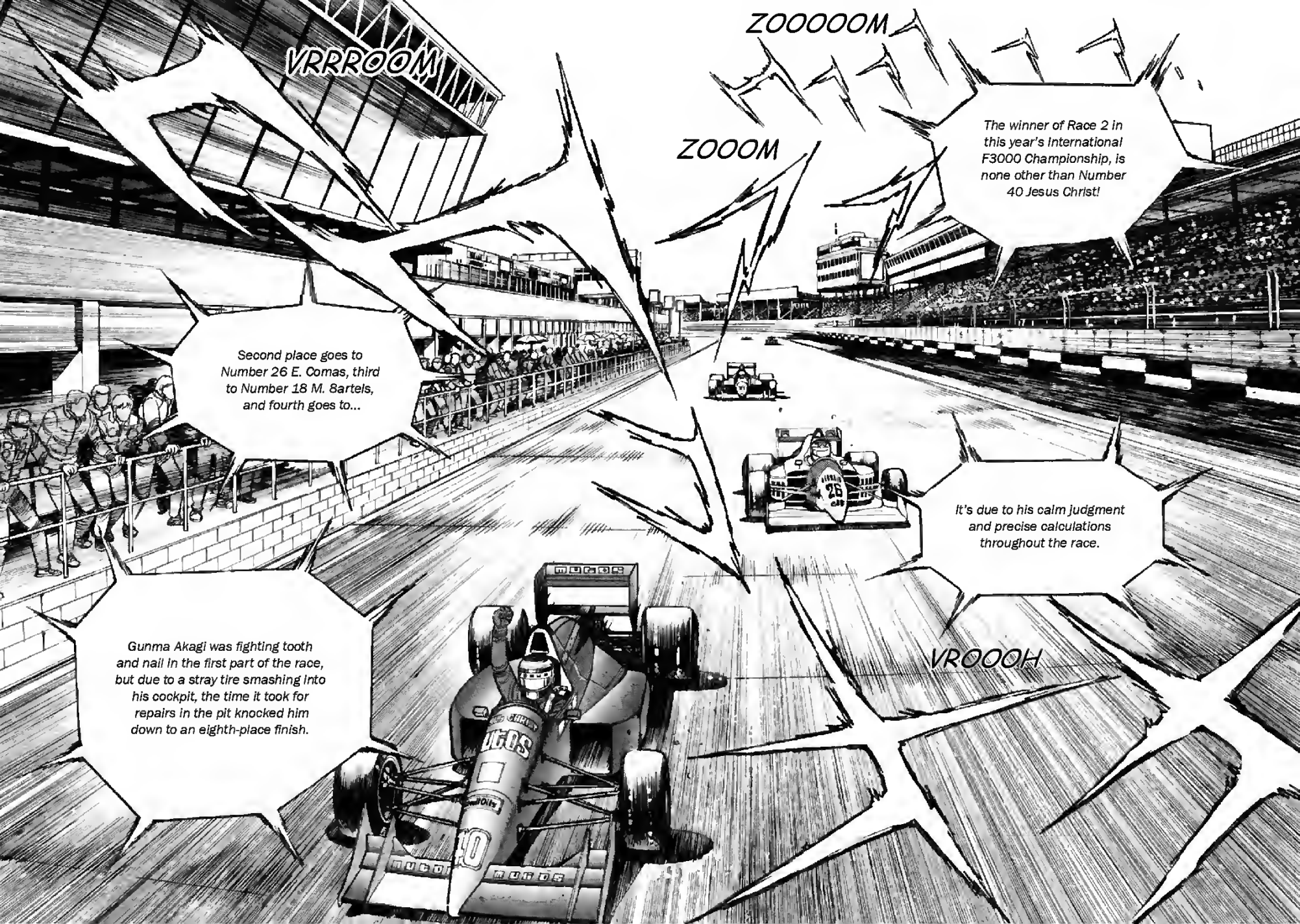

He kicked our arses...
Peabow...
Lon! Don!
SLAM


.....
Don't scrub so hard!
Hold still and let me disinfect this.
Shut up.
Ow ow ow ow ow...


Yeah!
Well, that old man took it all.
You idiots went over there without any money?

We're doing all we can to get you a gun, Peabow.
Just be happy he didn't kill you.
You guys are a real piece of work.

But...!
Peabow.
SLAM
...I'll go get some payback.
Fine. Now that we know where the dealer lives...


VRRROOM
ZOOOOOM
ZOOOM
The winner of Race 2 in this year's International F3000 Championship, is none other than Number 40 Jesus Christ!
Second place goes to Number 26 E. Comas, third to Number 18 M. Bartels, and fourth goes to...
It's due to his calm judgment and precise calculations throughout the race.
Gunma Akagi was fighting tooth and nail in the first part of the race, but due to a stray tire smashing into his cockpit, the time it took for repairs in the pit knocked him down to an eighth-place finish.
VROOOH

ZOOOOOM
ZOOOM
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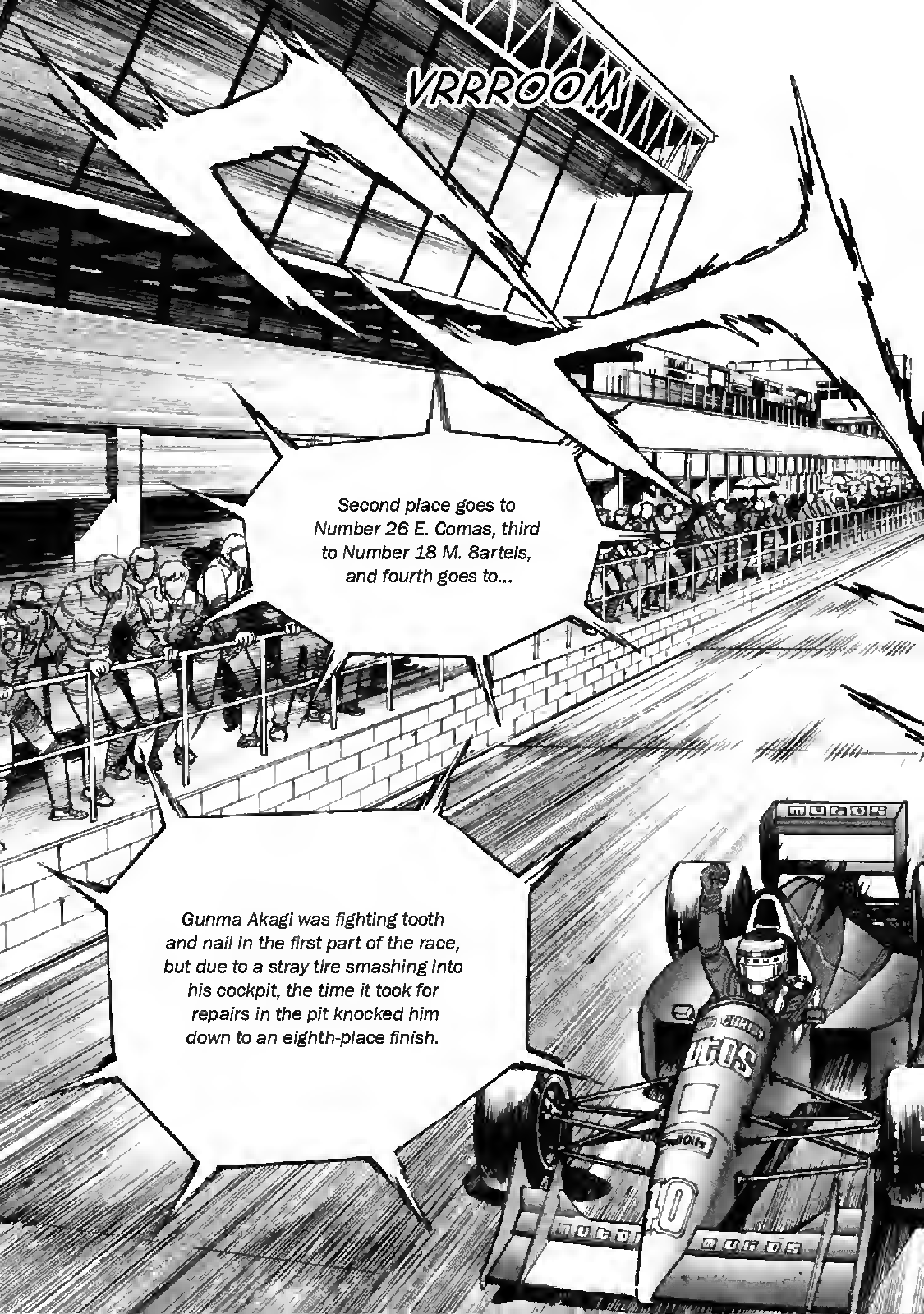

VRRROOM
Second place goes to Number 26 E. Comas, third to Number 18 M. Bartels, and fourth goes to...
Gunma Akagi was fighting tooth and nail in the first part of the race, but due to a stray tire smashing into his cockpit, the time it took for repairs in the pit knocked him down to an eighth-place finish.
mugen
mugen
mugen
10

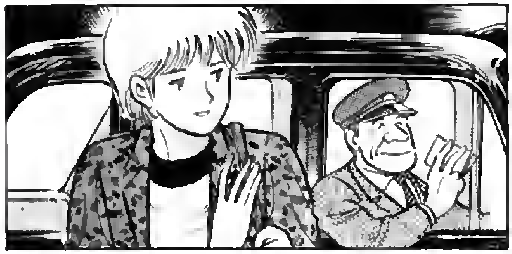
Then I'll have to beat the hell out of you.
KRAK
POP
I don't have money, but...
Show me the money.
My merchandise doesn't come cheap, boy.
I don't have any.

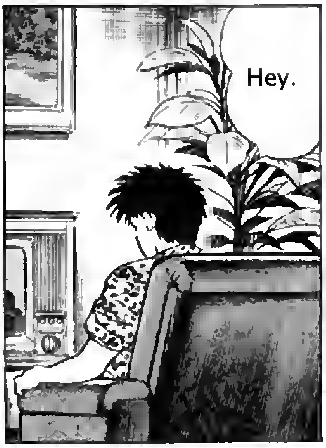
...I'll let you shag a real fit bird. How's that?
She's Japanese, and no diseases.
GRIN

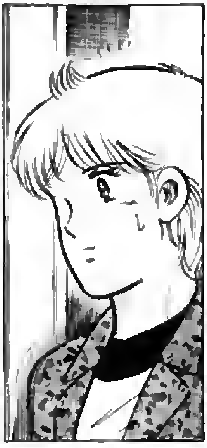
Chapter 6: Time and Space

You let me shag that woman, and I give you a pistol in return?
Hmm... So what are you saying exactly, boy?
You know what, boy. I sell pistols for a living, but there's one special that I'll sell to nobody.
Yeah, and don't forget she's super hot!
You wanna give him a feel?
It's my most highly-efficient, remarkably powerful, number-one gun!
And thanks to him, I've never left a woman unsatisfied!
Hmm...
You know how to wound a man's pride, boy.
It still hasn't hit the hottest target, after all!
Sorry to say, but your "number one" ain't much to speak of.

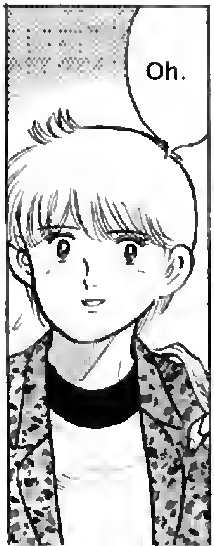
KACHUK
...smells of rust.
Fine. Just make sure to shower beforehand...
...and wear a dash of cologne.
How about you bring the nice lady over tomorrow for tea, hm?
If she's as fit as you say, I'll give you any gun you want! Except for my "number one" of course!
Your "big gun"...
.....
...I'll kill 'im.
Stupid little wanker.
If he's lying to me...
ON
.....




Hey.



KACHIK

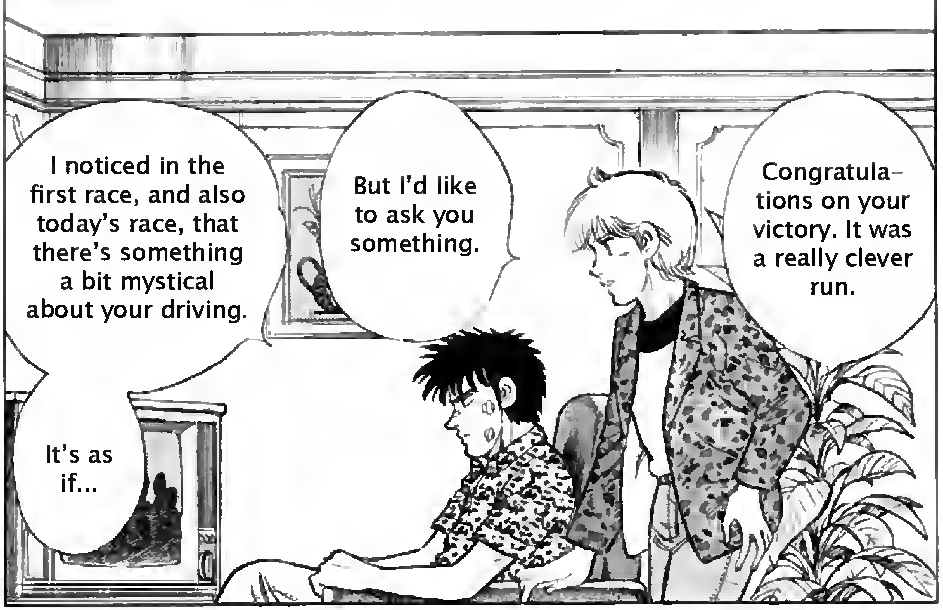

Oh.

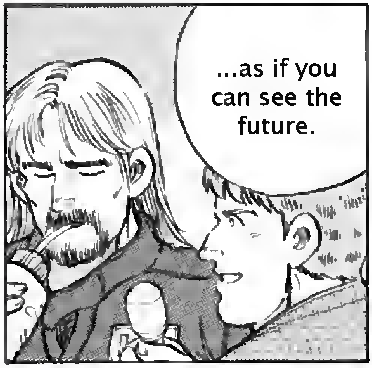
They went to a party for the team's owner.

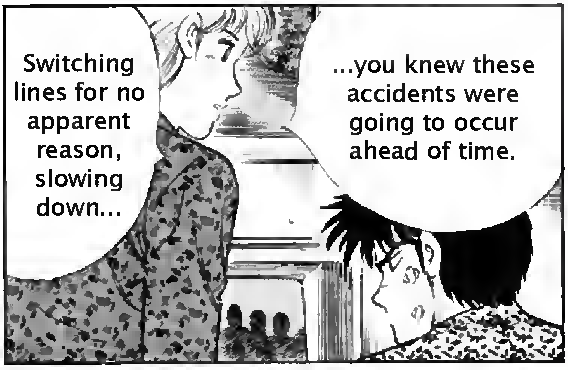
Where is every-body?
Hello.

Are you okay? What's with all the band-aids?
Ran into a little trouble.
How was the race?
I got eighth.
...
...
I'm fine.
...!
Where were you?
I'm gonna go change.
...
...
I'll be there next time.
Sorry.
How come you didn't come to the circuit?
Just uh...

Trans-
late
for me.
...
TWITCH
Junko!
And they're
interview-
wing Jesus.
The
news is
on TV.
...!?
Okay.
...


I noticed in the first race, and also today's race, that there's something a bit mystical about your driving.
But I'd like to ask you something.
Congratulations on your victory. It was a really clever run.
It's as if...


...as if you can see the future.

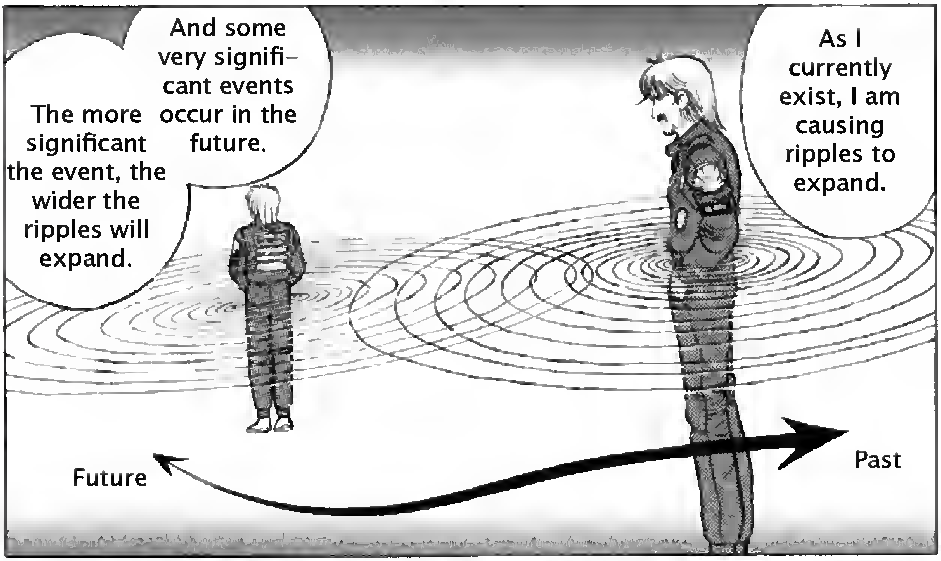

Switching lines for no apparent reason, slowing down...
...you knew these accidents were going to occur ahead of time.

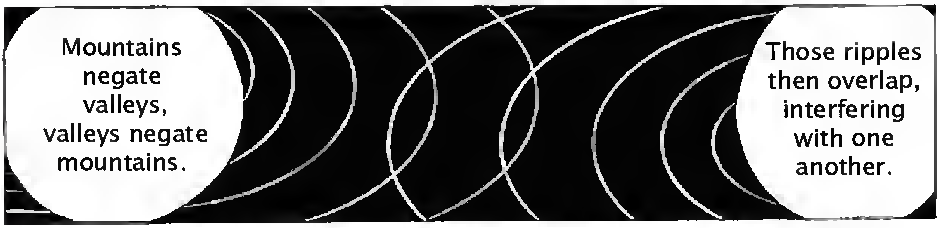
I can see the future.
You just said it.

You can see the...!?
!?
You must be joking.
It's no joke. But I wouldn't exactly call it a supernatural gift.
Basically...
I see the world differently than most.
It's as if space and time function together as a single entity.
Hold on, now. That's kind of a complicated subject to get into.
Marlboro
WOLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

There's nothing compli-cated about it.
Time and space are connec-ted.
And everything in existence, including you and me, are like ripples in that time and space.
Imagine the surface of water.
It's very much like time and space.
If you throw a pebble, it creates ripples on the surface, and those ripples expand.
That would be our existence.
The entire universe is moving in a single direction for a reason, with the future in front of it, and the past behind it.
But they're both on a single track.

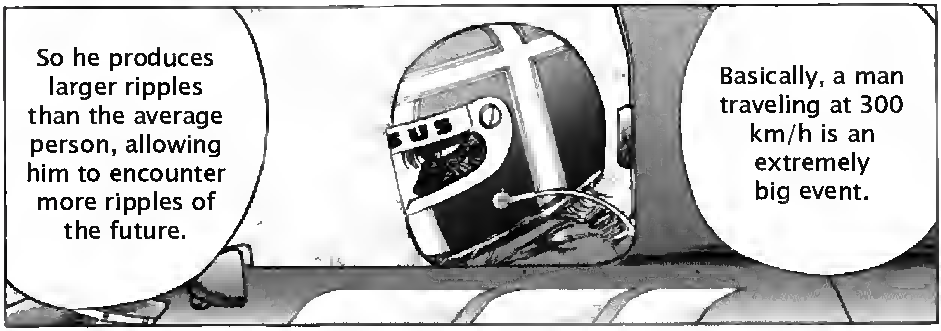
What the hell is he talking about?
With the ripples expanding in both directions.

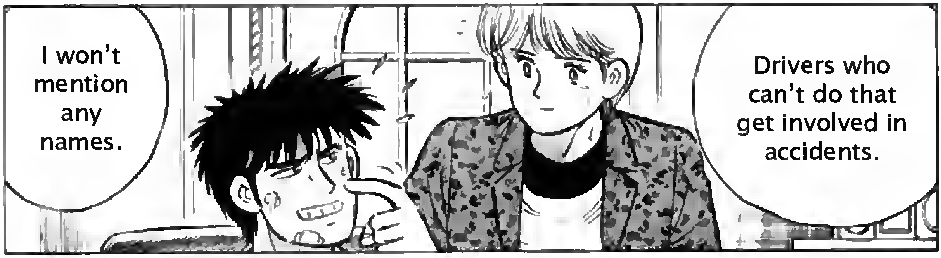

The more significant the event, the wider the ripples will expand.
And some very significant events occur in the future.
As I currently exist, I am causing ripples to expand.
Future
Past


Mountains negate valleys, valleys negate mountains.
Those ripples then overlap, interfering with one another.

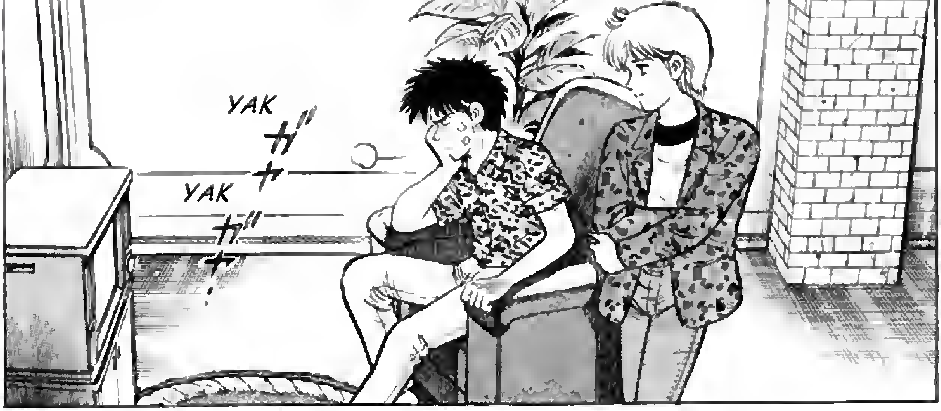
...I can know that something significant is about to happen in the time we call "future."
And because of that...

But when a driver's in the heat of the race, existence itself is extremely high- energy.
Everyone has this ability.
...

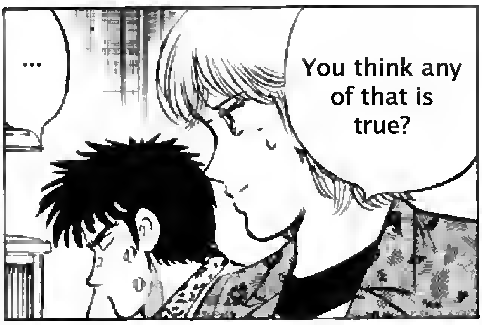

So he produces larger ripples than the average person, allowing him to encounter more ripples of the future.
Basically, a man traveling at 300 km/h is an extremely big event.


I won't mention any names.
Drivers who can't do that get involved in accidents.

I just know that it's some-thing of major significance.
I can't know specifically what's going to happen.
And that's why I've never had an accident!
This is shoc-king!
So what you're trying to say is that, you're able to predict events of the future?

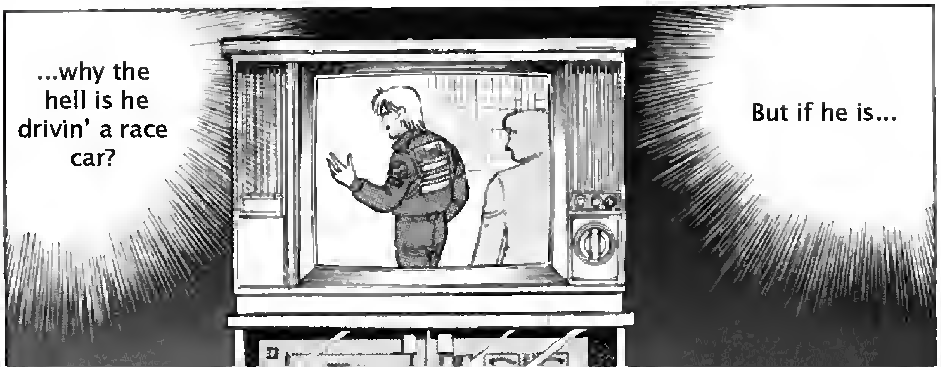

YAK
YAK

Davey and me, we ain't got it.
I dunno, but...


...
You think any of that is true?

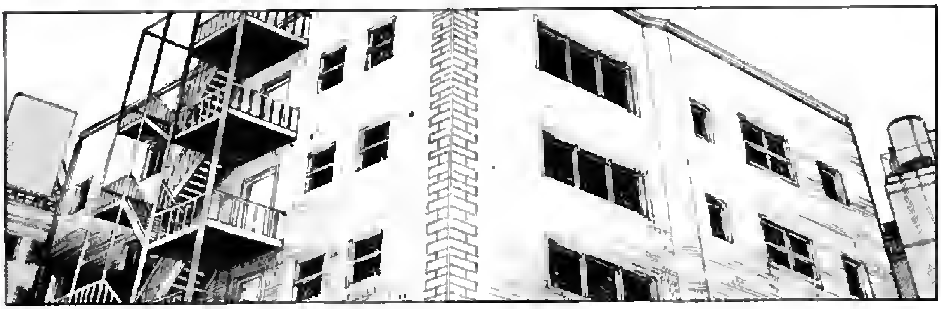
...and I got these band-aids!
Davey lost both his legs...

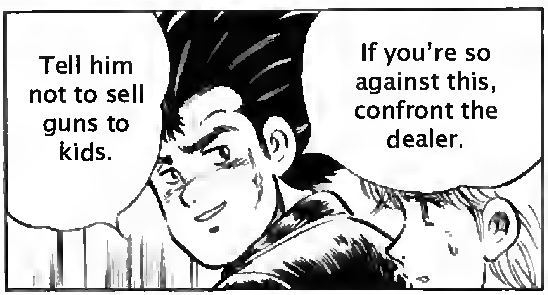
Maybe Jesus really is God.
Ha ha ha...
だからな.
We're just a couple of fools, who can't see past our own noses, let alone the future.

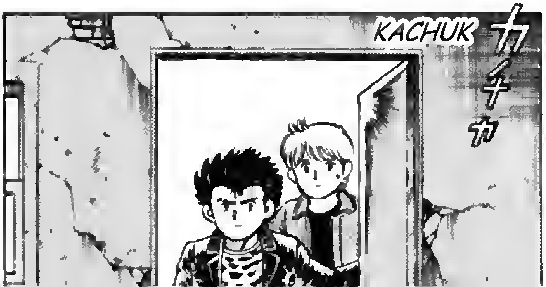

...why the hell is he drivin' a race car?
But if he is...

... Gun-ma?
Hey...
Yeah.
Is that enou-gh?
...about Peabow?
How are you feeling...
I mean ...
How am I feeling?
...
He's a lot like me. He really is.
You know what ...
I'd love to beat the crap outta him!
...do you love him?
Okay...
What a frea-kin' joke! I'd like to see him try!
Says he's gonna kill me!

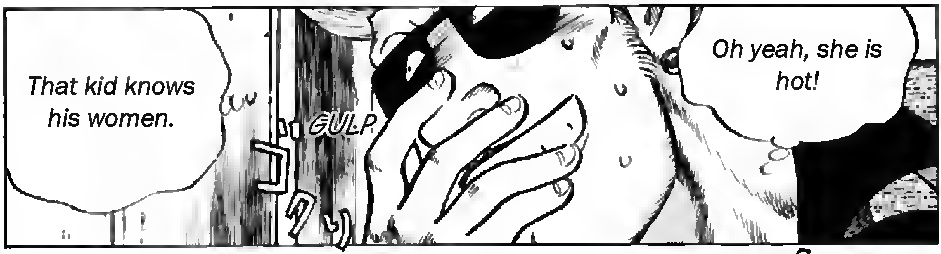
Stop right there, Peabow.
KACHUK
Don't be ridiculous. How could you ever think of such a thing...
Fine, do what you want.
About time you got here.
I'm about to get a gun. You're comin' with me.



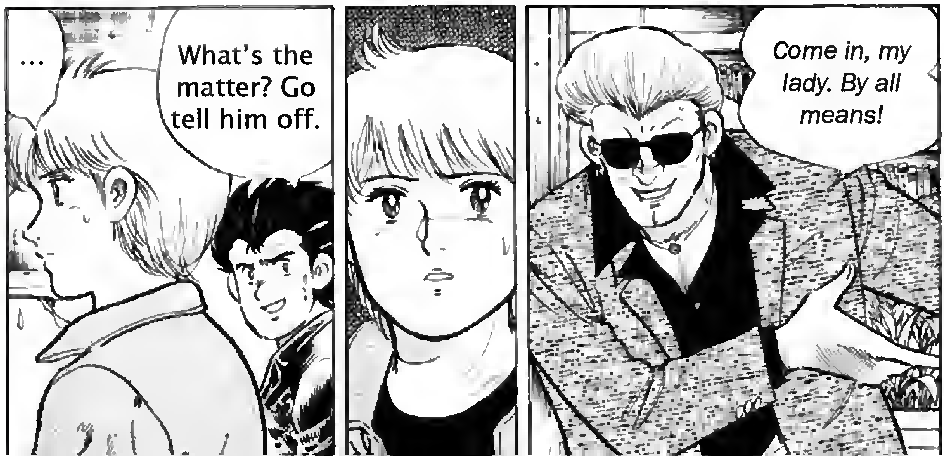

Tell him not to sell guns to kids.
If you're so against this, confront the dealer.


KACHUK

Don't do this!
This is the place.

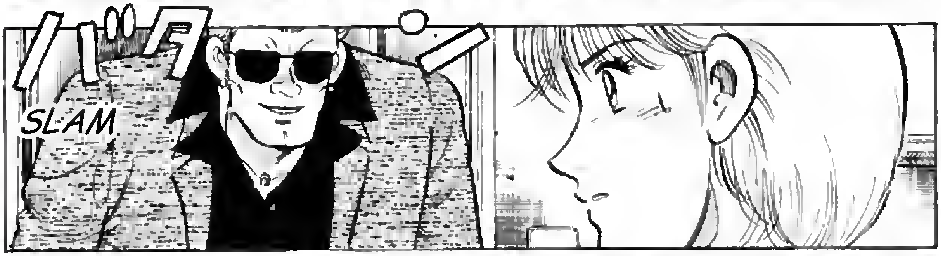

That kid knows his women.
GULP
Oh yeah, she is hot!

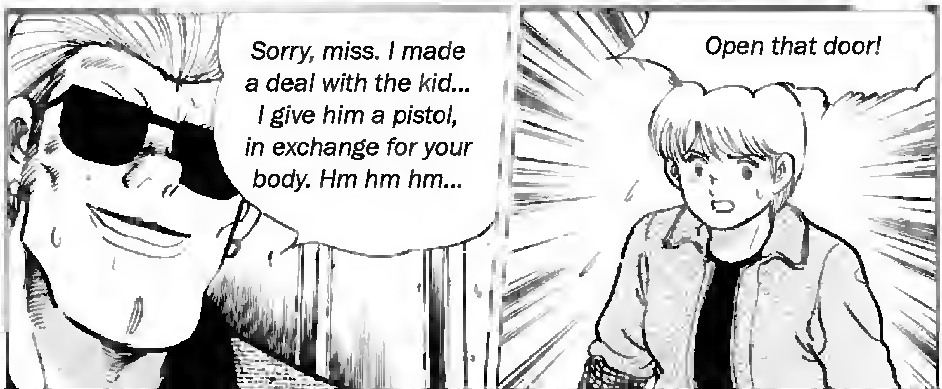
Hi there!
KACHUK

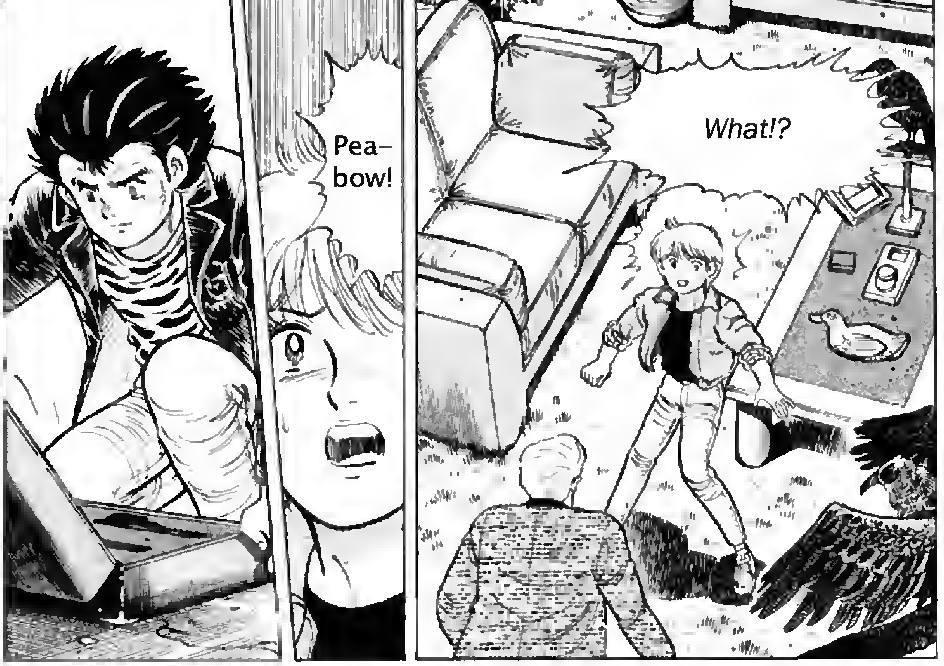

...
What's the matter? Go tell him off.
Come in, my lady. By all means!

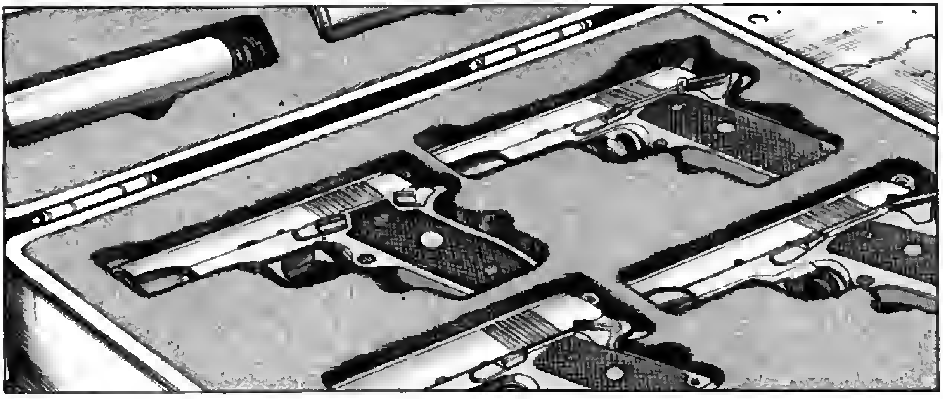
...
Don't be bashful!
Right, right. Let's talk about it inside over tea.
Excuse me, but I'm this boy's guardian...

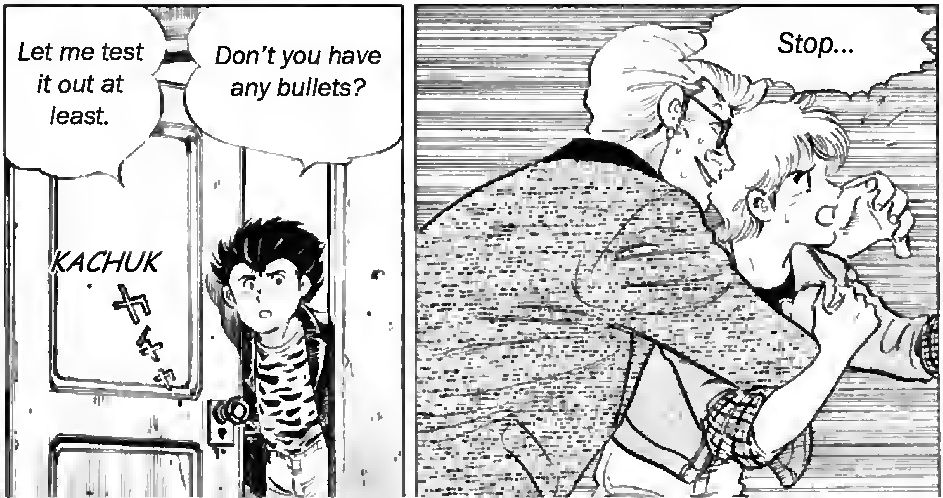
!
Take whatever you're keen on from this!


SLAM


Sorry, miss. I made a deal with the kid... I give him a pistol, in exchange for your body. Hm hm hm...
Open that door!


Pea–
bow!
What!?



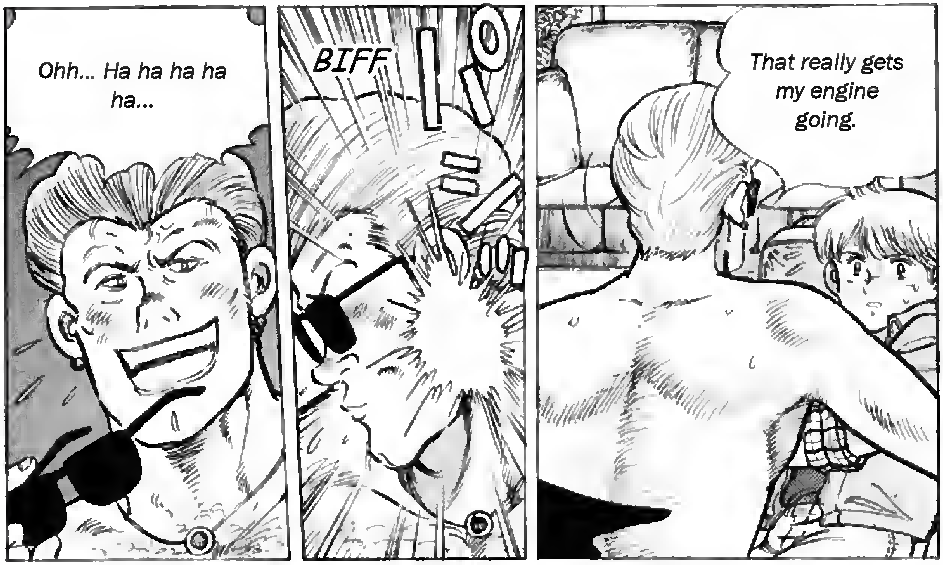

Let me test it out at least.
Don't you have any bullets?
KACHUK
Stop...

Here.
And attach the silencer!
...
Heh.
KACHUK
Enjoy.
Man, am I gonna enjoy this.
Missy...
.....
CLICK

Chapter 7: Messenger from Above

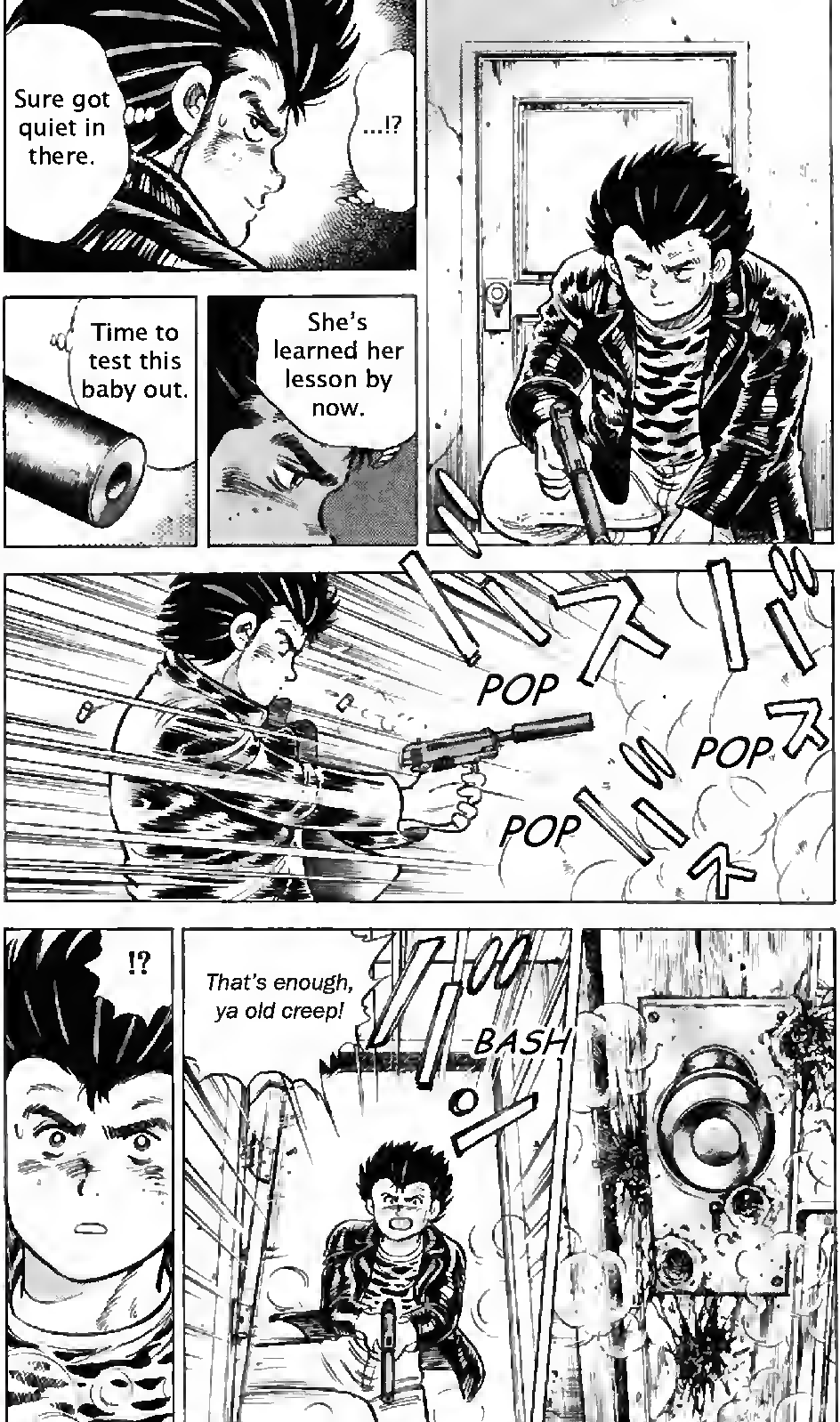
Don't fight it, missy.
I made a deal with the kid, you know? A pistol in exchange for a piece of you.
So we might as well enjoy it!
PLUNK
I showered for you, and even slapped on some cologne.
SMACK
It's what dreams are made of, missy.

Ha ha ha ha ha ha!
Hot and sassy, just how I like 'em!
Ooh...


Ohh... Ha ha ha ha ha...
BIFF
That really gets my engine going.

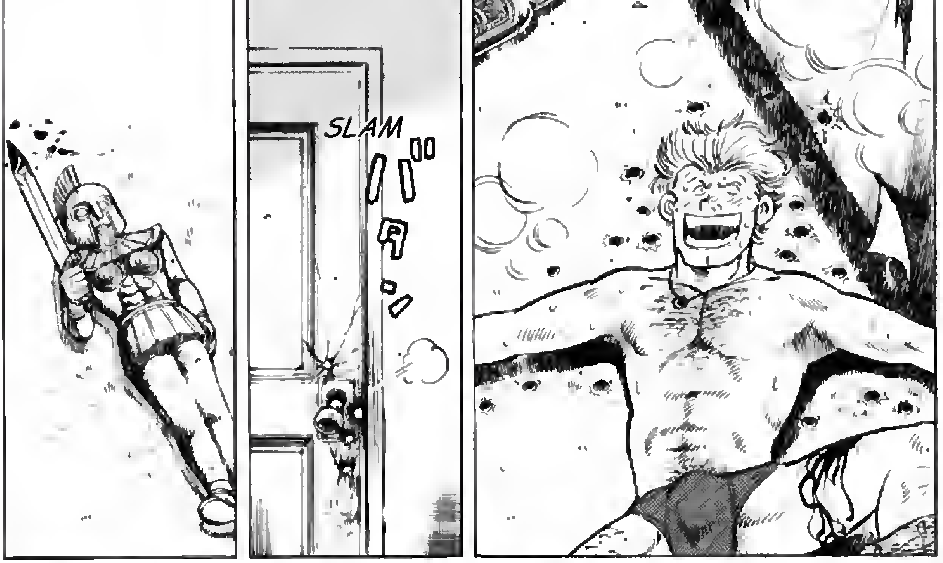
Don't screw around with me, bitch!
SMACK

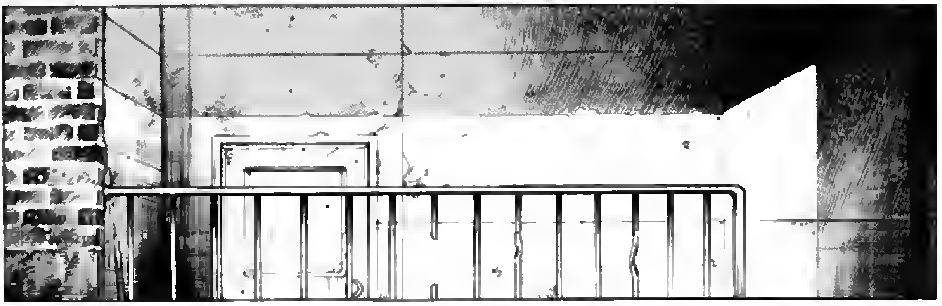
Enough playing hard-to-get. I want to gaze into that cute little face of yours while I'm shagging you.
ZIP
...!
Whoa there, missy...
SHIK
Don't do anything stupid.
Come on, now...


Sure got quiet in there.
...!?
Time to test this baby out.
She's learned her lesson by now.
POP
POP
POP
!?
That's enough, ya old creep!
BASH

This chick is off her freaking rocker!
Ju... Junko!
POP
Gimme my pistol, you...
Junko...
Grahh...

Let go of that.
I got my pistol, so let's get outta here.
...
THUNK
Get back here you little brat! You conned me!
Come on.
Huff huff...
Whoa!
...
POP
POP
POP
POP


SLAM

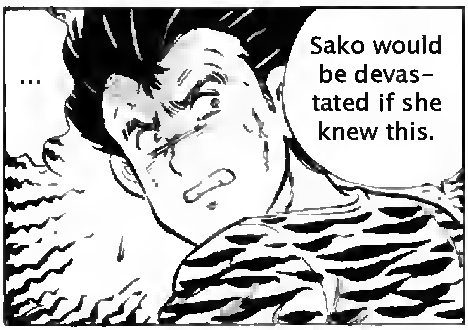


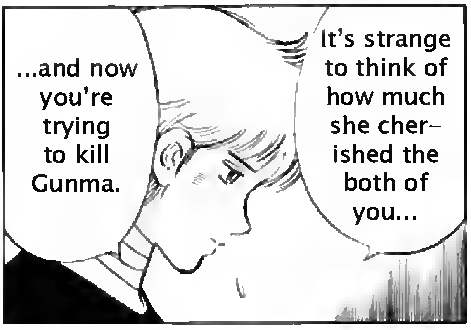
Must've been my Japanese spirit.
I even shocked myself.

I really put on an act in there.
When I thought I was done for...
...I remembered a scene from a period piece I saw on TV a long time ago.

Now that I think about it, that's kind of a silly thing to die for... But I probably would have done it.
I don't know.
If I hadn't busted in there... Would you have stab-bed yourself?
If...
...my heart has to be open to a man before I can give him my body.
This may sound old fashioned, but as a Japanese woman...
Right.
It's just sex!
Why!?
Nothin' to die over!
...was Japanese too.
Sako...
!
That's because she cared so deeply for you and Gunma.
But she slept with George!

Even though she hated George enough to kill him, she was thinking of you and Gunma.
She really thought that choosing her music was the best thing to do for you two.


...
Sako would be devas-tated if she knew this.

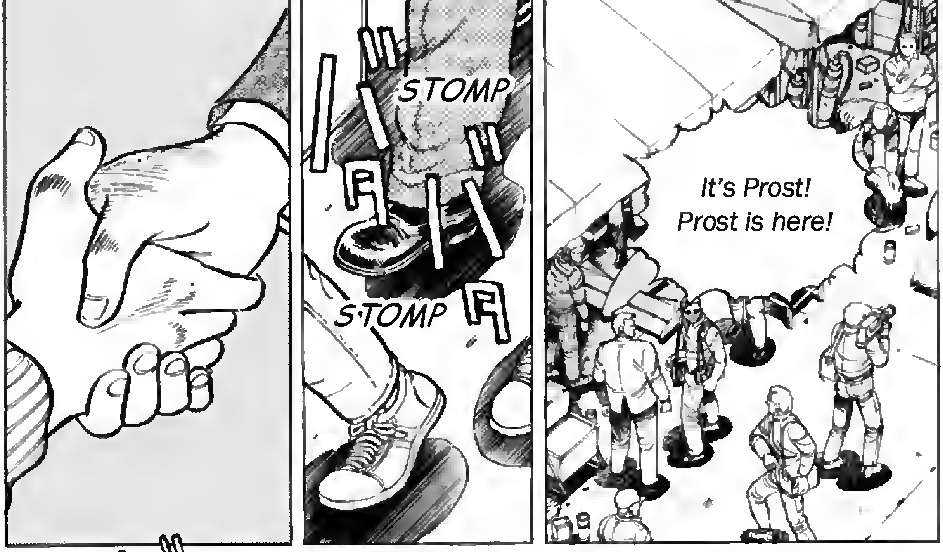

...and now you're trying to kill Gunma.
It's strange to think of how much she cher-ished the both of you...

And you...
And you love him...

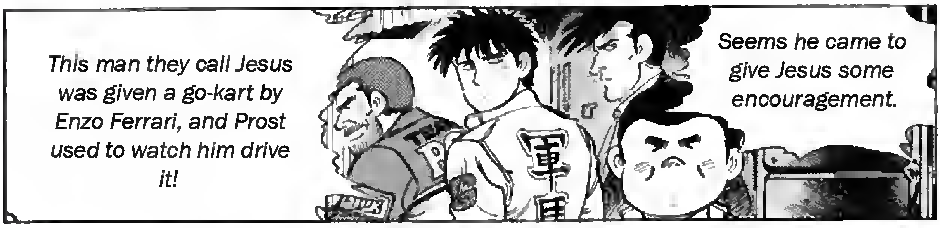
...

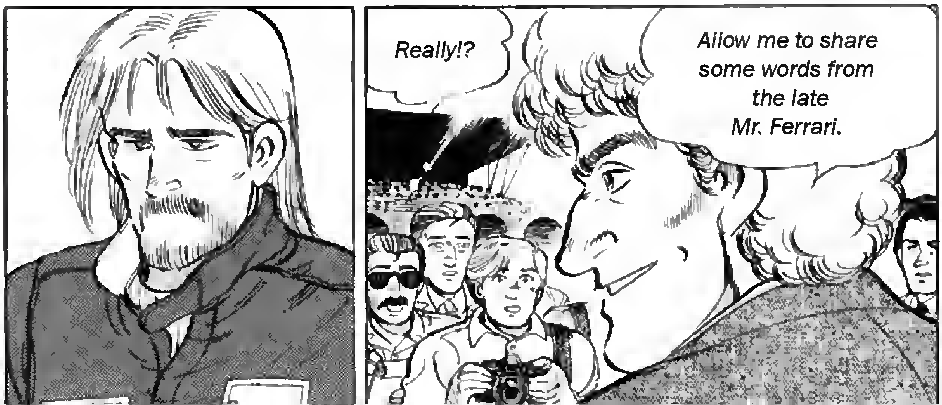
...what about Gunma him-self!?
Even if Sako loved Gunma as much as you say...
You're the one he truly loved!
I don't wanna hear your lectures!
That's enough!
SLAM

YAK
ヤク
YAK
ヤク
June 3: Pau, France
38
TEAM B.O

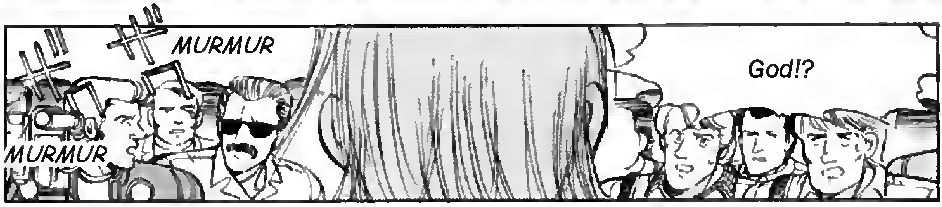

STOMP
STOMP
It's Prost!
Prost is here!

YAK
YAK
YAK

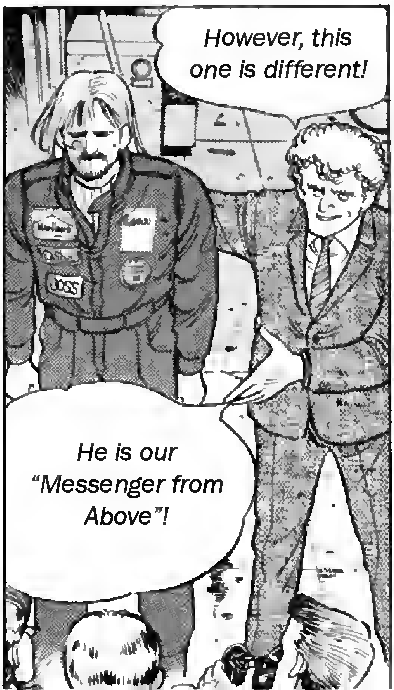

This man they call Jesus was given a go-kart by Enzo Ferrari, and Prost used to watch him drive it!
Seems he came to give Jesus some encouragement.

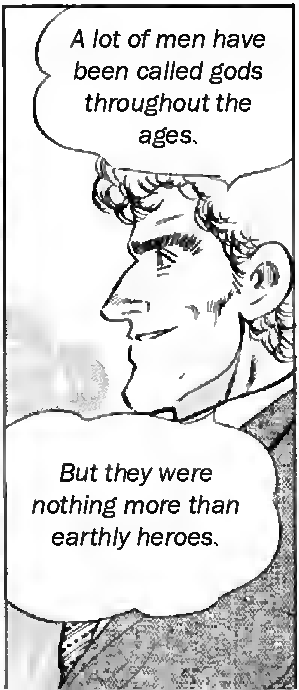

Really!?
Allow me to share some words from the late Mr. Ferrari.

"God has come to us!"
He once said this about Jesus.
Marlboro
Lucas


MURMUR
MURMUR
God!?

From above...!?
Wow...
He did say he could see the future in one of his interviews...


However, this one is different!
He is our "Messenger from Above"!


A lot of men have been called gods throughout the ages.
But they were nothing more than earthly heroes.

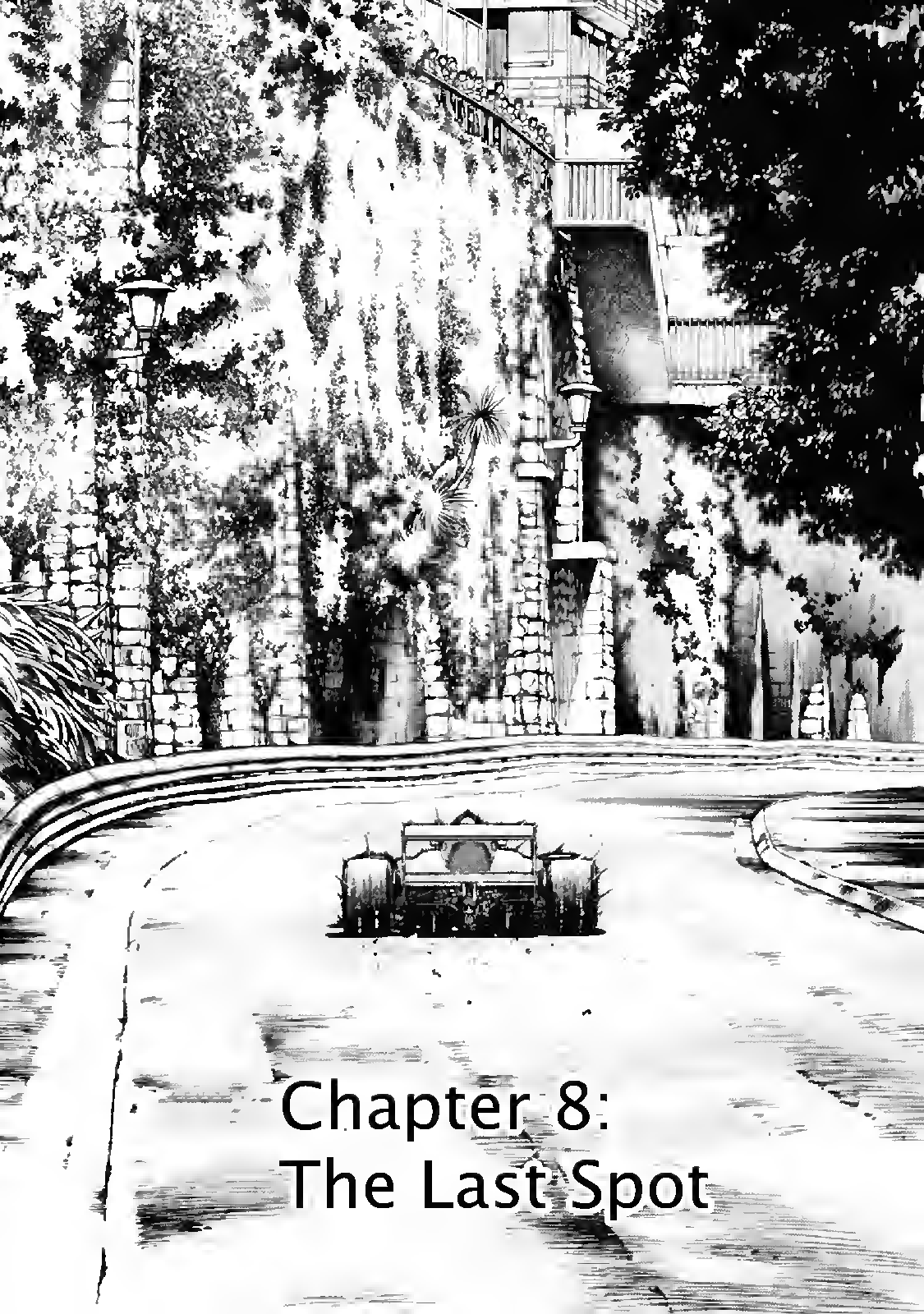
Well, I don't plan on retiring just yet.
Does that mean you're willing to give up your spot, Mr. Prost?
MURMUR
MURMUR
Jesus has F1 in his future as far as I'm concerned.
And Team Ferrari would be glad to take him whenever he's ready!
...I'll be more than happy to give it up to him!
But if Jesus wants to take my spot...
YAK
YAK
YAK
Davey!?
How dramatic...
TEAM
BO
NGK

Davey, those legs...
...but no reporters are interested in my story, it seems.
I came here to lend Gunma a bit of support...
Heh heh, they're prosthetics. Have a look.
Gunma...
Hey, hey.
Sweet!
I'm telling you Gunma! Eliminate him!
Davey...
...a piece of advice for you. Crush Jesus!
If you don't nip this in the bud now, he'll turn this circuit into a bloody circus...

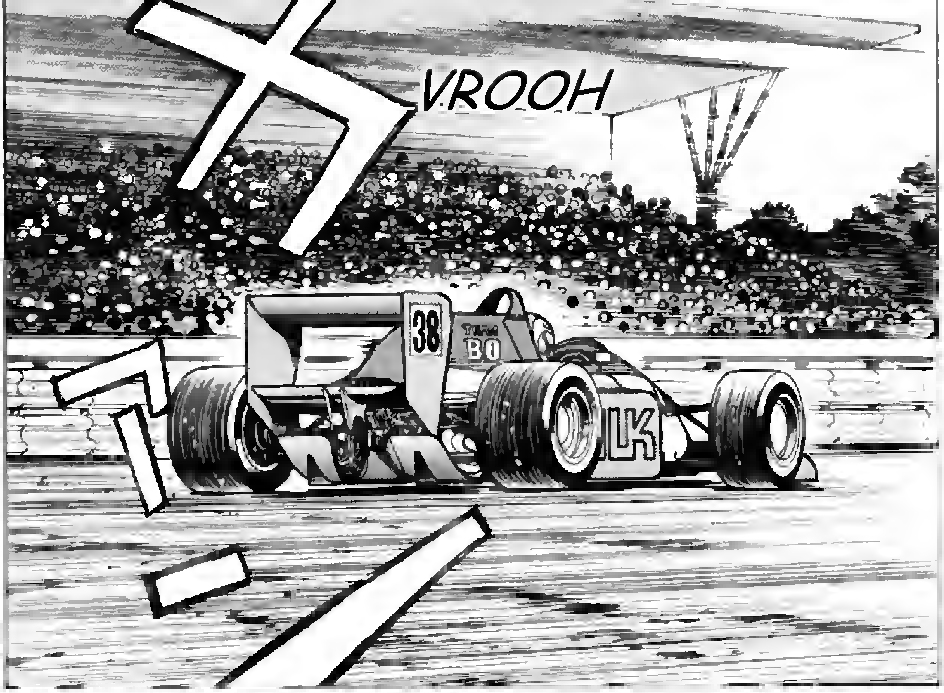
VROOOH
VROOOH
How come Junko ain't here...?
Where the hell could she be if she ain't here?

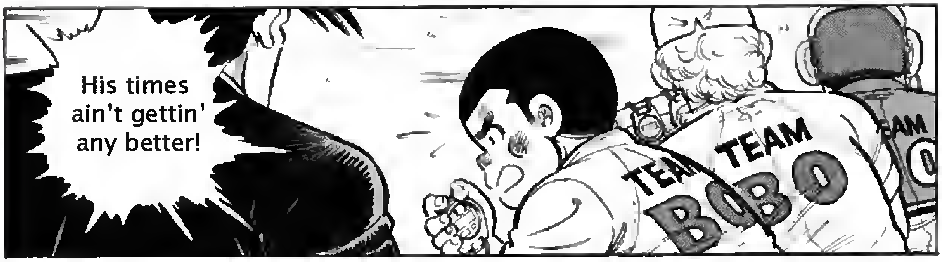
VROOOH
Let's move, Gunma!
TEAM BO
GUNMA AKAGI
SILK

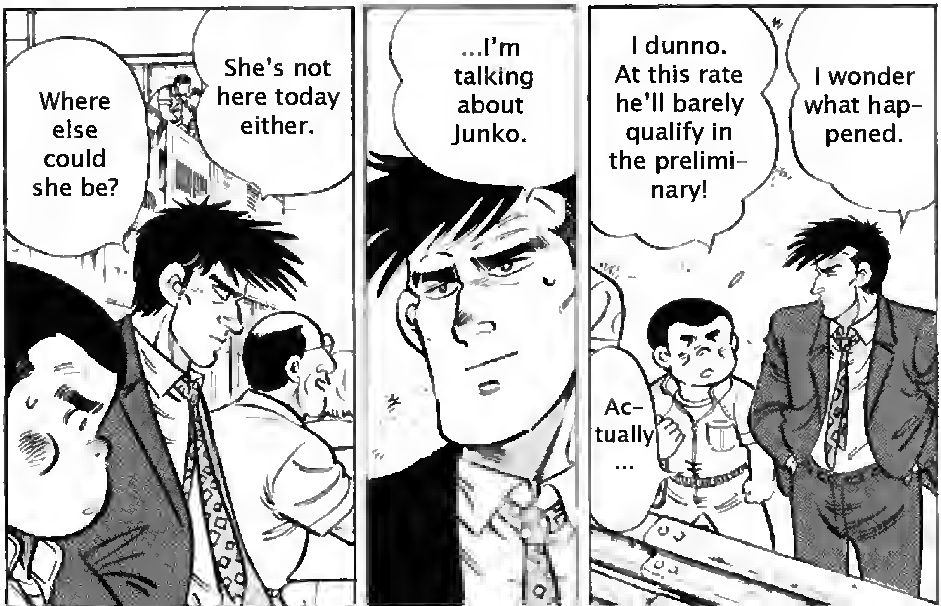
VROOOOOOH
ZOOOOM



Chapter 8: The Last Spot


VROOH
38
BO
TEAM BOBO


His times ain't gettin' any better!
TEAM BOBO


Where else could she be?
She's not here today either.
...I'm talking about Junko.
I dunno. At this rate he'll barely qualify in the prelimi-nary!
I wonder what hap-pened.
Ac-tually ...

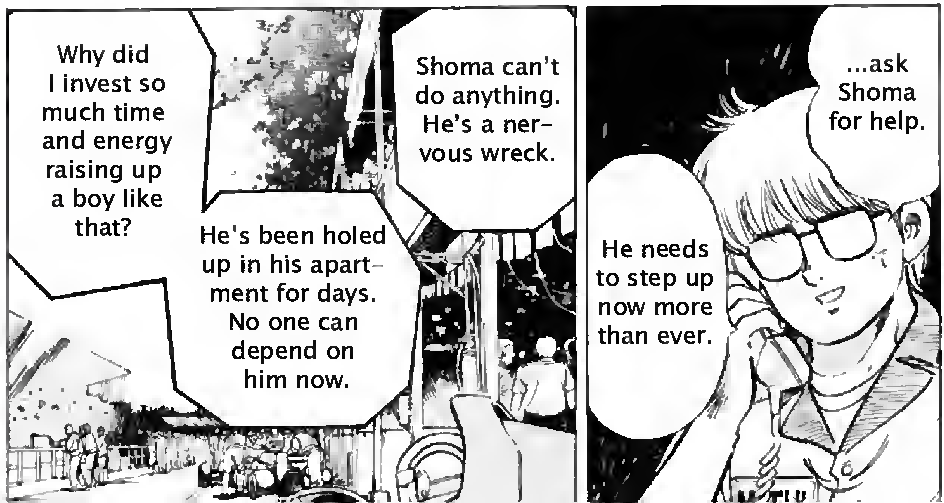
And... That's why his times are so bad?
Gunma won't say anything...
...but I think it's bothering him a lot.
It's either that, or...
If he's really that concerned, Gunma would ask her directly.
...the old Gunma.
Right, the old Gunma.
TEAM
That's Gunma.
And if he don't like the answer, he'll yell and throw a fit.
Or at least ...
...given up on Junko already.
He's...
For their sakes.
...and Peabow.
For Yuki...
...Sako...

ZOOOOOM
Sounds about right.
What do you think, Tamo-tsu?
As much as he wants to yell and scream about it now, he can only sit in silence. Can't even tell her to come to the circuit.
Just sits and takes it.
...
Where could Junko be?
...Jesus again.
At this rate, pole position's going to...
VREHHHHHH
HELIOS
MOTUL
TEAM
METAMORPHOSE
Mobil

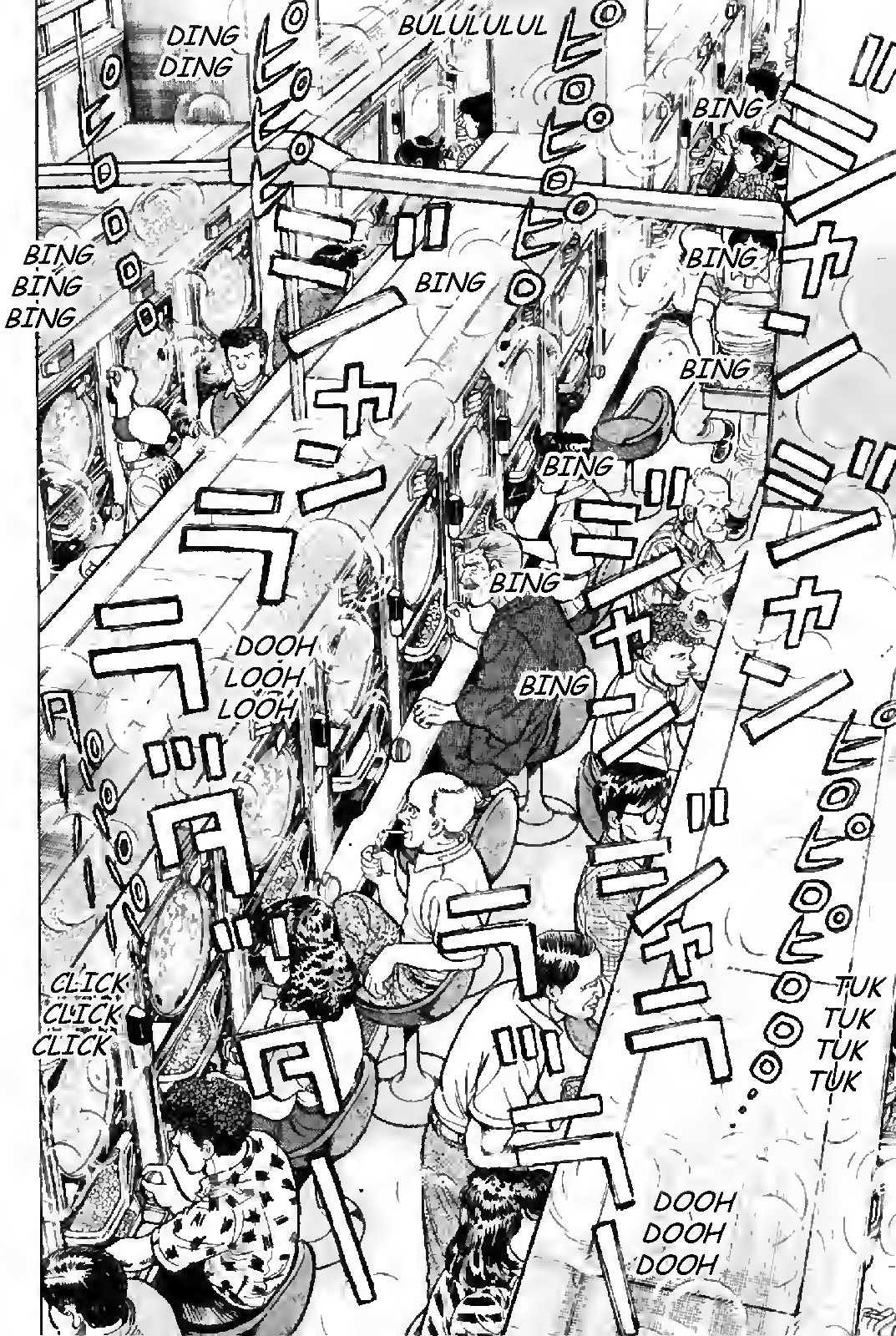
He's killing it!
Yeah, he's gradually getting better.
Nice Otoya! Real nice this time!
Hello?
Oh, hey Mom.
PRESS ROOM
Yuma, you've got a call from Japan.
What!? Uncle Tatsu was arrested!?
The police have been conducting an undercover investigation.
殺人容疑で逮捕!
Arrested for murder!
What should we do, Mom?
証言テープで明
Taped confession makes
Yes Yuma, things are getting out of hand!

Please come home, Yuma! I need you!
I feel so helpless right now.
But there's a lot of evidence.
I can't believe that he, of all people, would do such a horrible thing.
Kasai is taking care of the company on his own.
They can't depend on your father or Shoma right now.

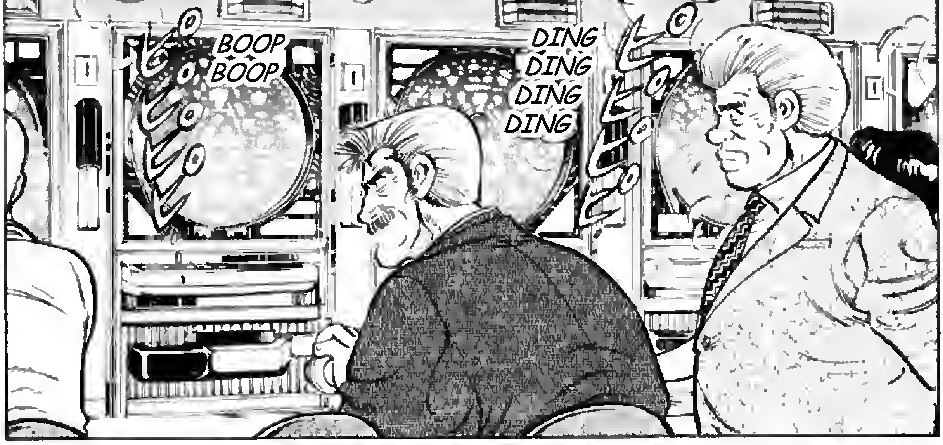
YAK
YAK
YAK
Mom...
What's more important to you, Yuma? This "racing" or our company!?
I can't, Mom. Not till the races are over.
METAMORPHOSE


Why did I invest so much time and energy raising up a boy like that?
He's been holed up in his apartment for days. No one can depend on him now.
Shoma can't do anything. He's a nervous wreck.
He needs to step up now more than ever.
...ask Shoma for help.

I'm pretty busy right now, so...
If you've been counting on him so much, stick with him to the end, Mom.
...
We were counting on him, and he's betrayed our expectations!
CLICK
Racing, Mom.
...
Tell me, Yuma. What is more important to you? Racing or our company!?
VROOH
Racing.

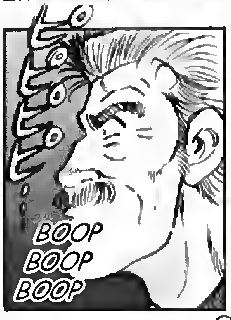

DING DING
BULULULUL
BING
BING BING BING
BING
BING
BING
BING
BING
BING
DOOH LOOH LOOH
BING
CLICK CLICK CLICK
TUK TUK TUK TUK
DOOH DOOH DOOH

...to the very end...
We defend our nation...
CLUNK
Hey.
DING
DING
DING
SHOOP
GRIN


BOOP
BOOP
DING
DING
DING
DING

I think I'll pass.
Want to give it a try?

Kasai! I'm on a roll today!
Well done, sir.

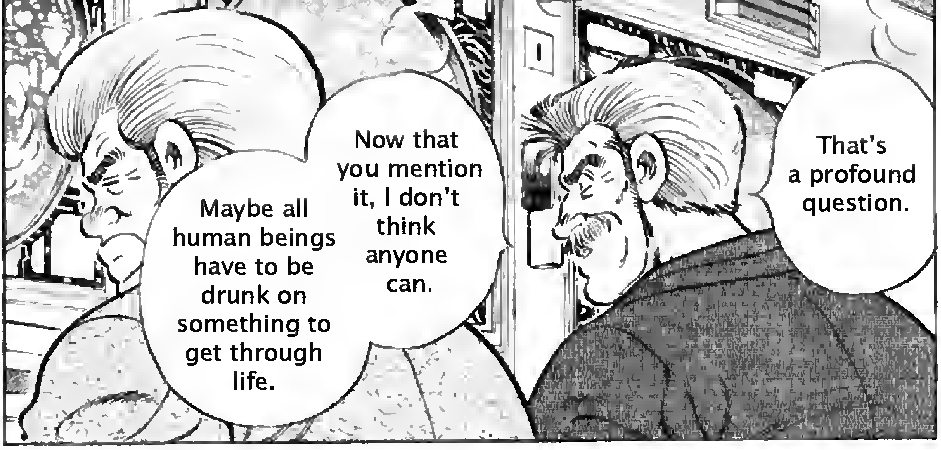

BOOP
BOOP
BOOP

...

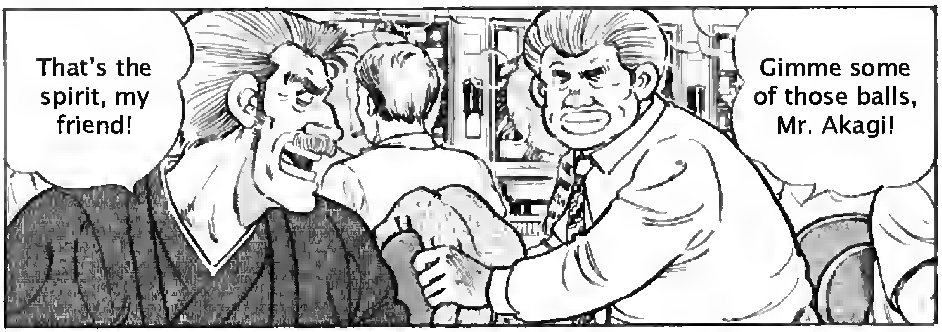
Huh?
What do you want?
I'll play this puppy out!
Okay, then watch the master.
The prizes! What do you want?
Cigarettes, or alcohol maybe... No, no, you're a single man, so how about some underwear? I'll win loads of underwear!

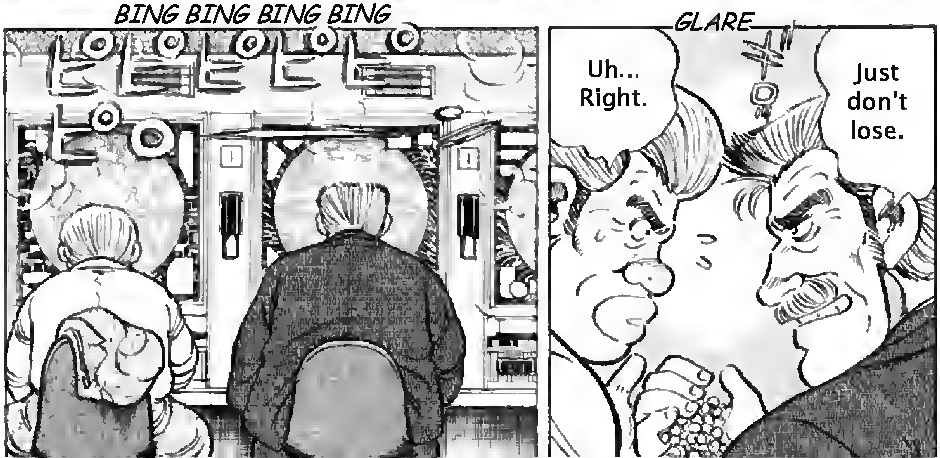
About Uncle Tatsu?
BING
BING
Actually, I came to bring you some news, sir.
BING
BING

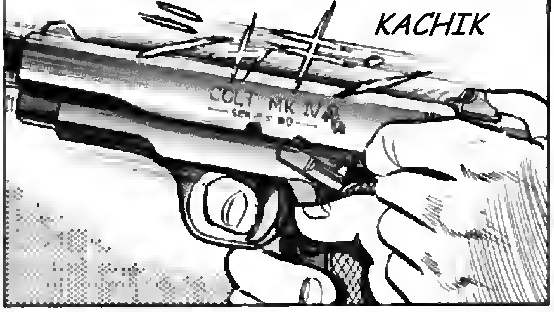
Oh yeah?
Kida's confession tape was the clincher.
BULULULUL
How did you know, sir?
They finally arrested him, huh?
Read it in the paper.
BULULULUL
I see...
You know, I feel sorry for that man.
Huh?
Hatred is just like alcohol.
BULULULUL
...
Can anyone go through life sober?
But still ...
BEEP
If you consume a moderate amount, it'll help you get through the day.
But you can't let it consume you, or you'll drown in it.
BOOP


Maybe all human beings have to be drunk on something to get through life.
Now that you mention it, I don't think anyone can.
That's a profound question.

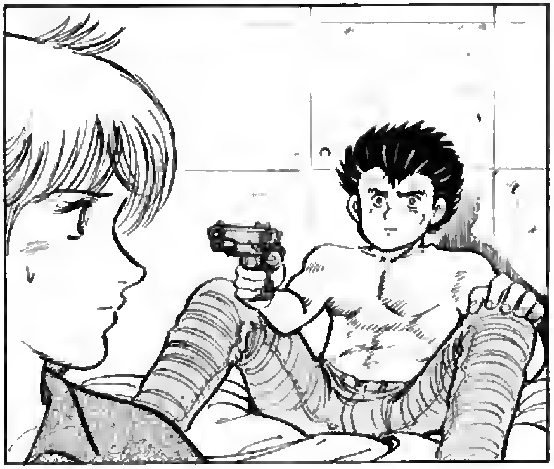
...
So let's get drunk on the finest sake we can find. Ha ha ha...

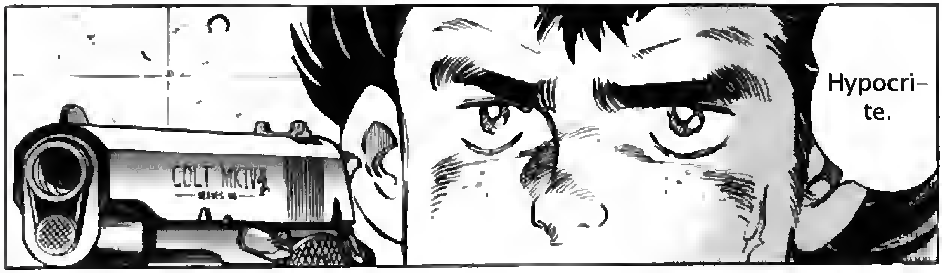

That's the spirit, my friend!
Gimme some of those balls, Mr. Akagi!

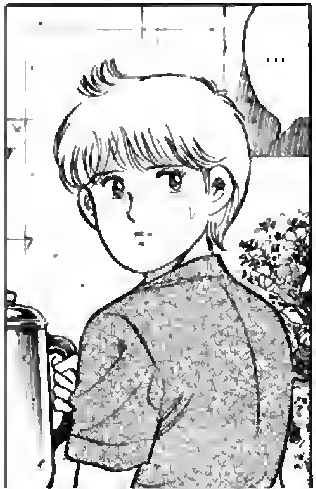

BING BING BING BING
GLARE
Uh... Right.
Just don't lose.


KACHIK
COLT MK IV

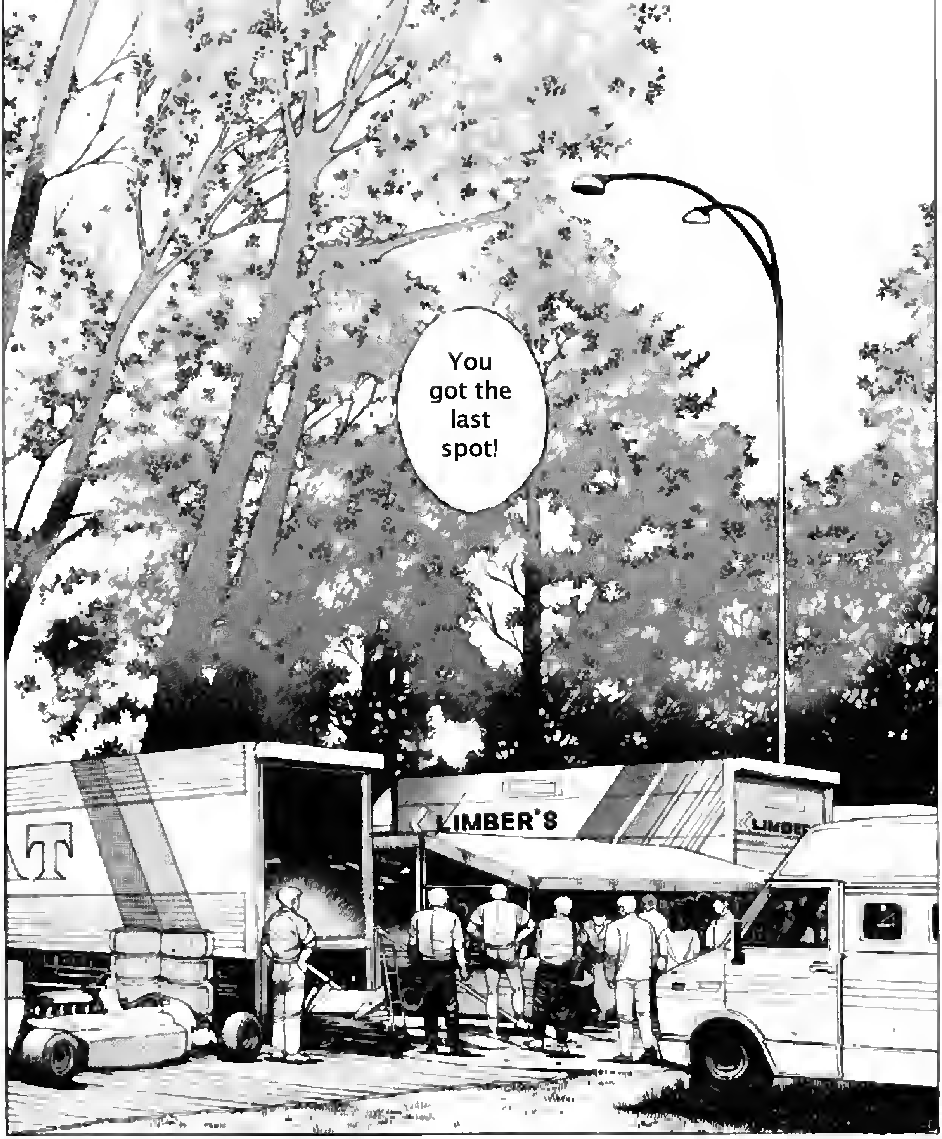
You think Gunma's safe...
...as long as you stick around with me.




COLT MKIV
Hypocri-te.

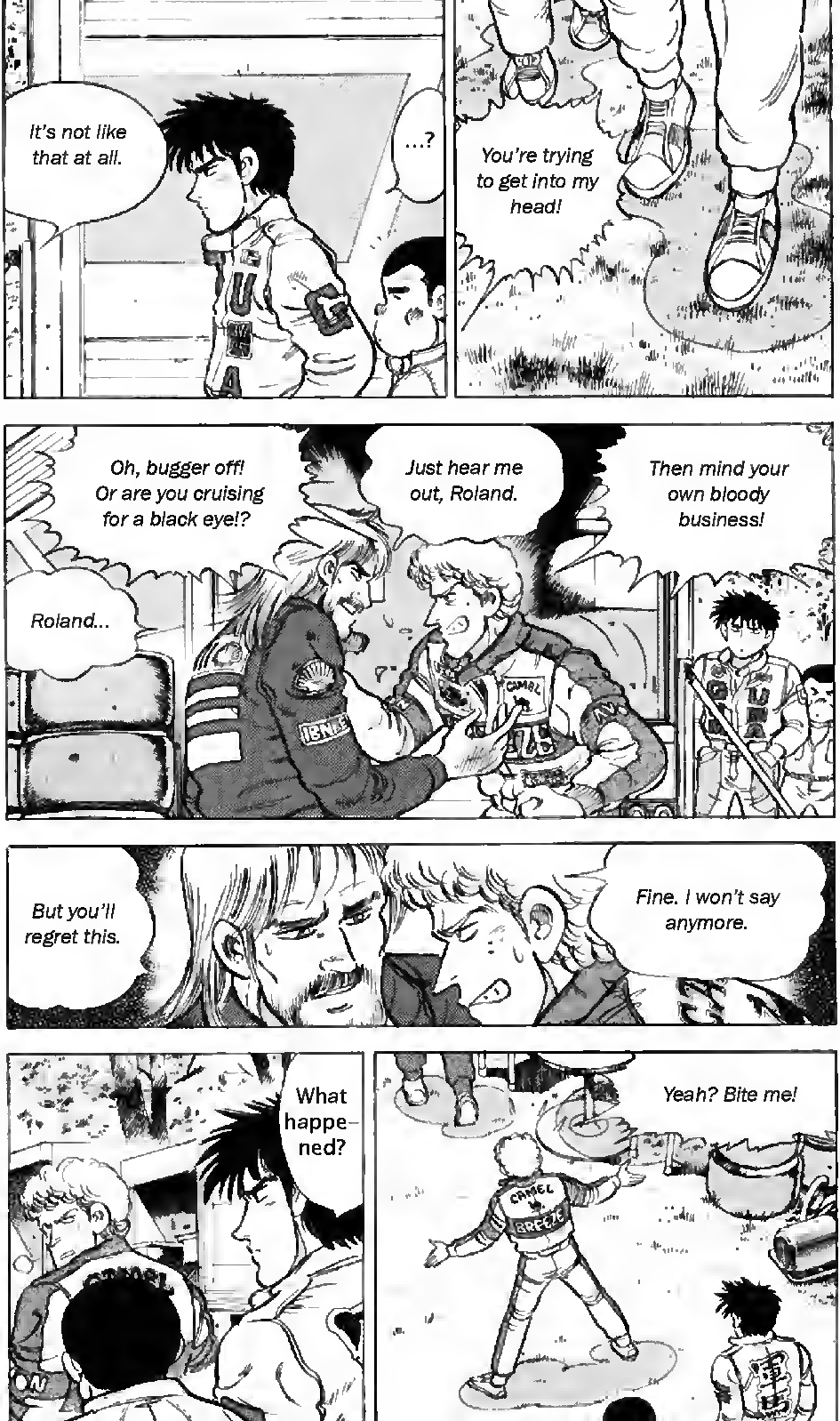

...

Right, Junko!?
You're just trying to pro-tect the man you love.
Sayin' you came here to be my mother.

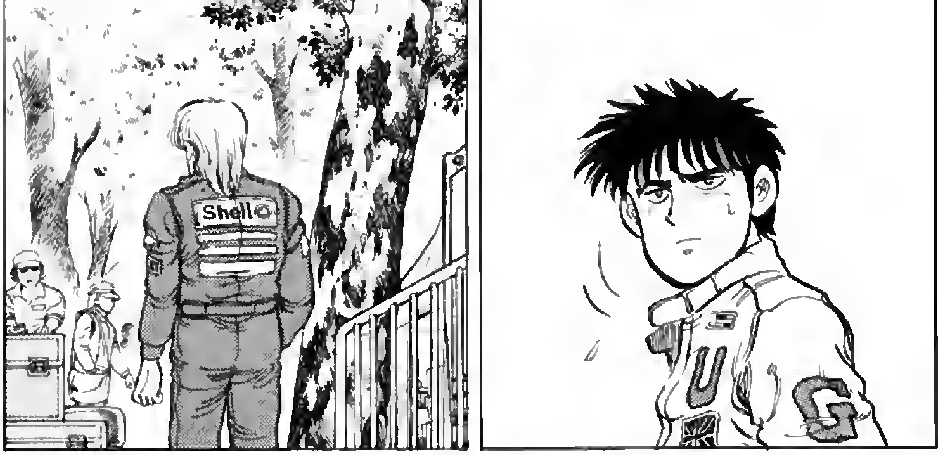

You got the last spot!
LIMBER'S

Shut up.

Gunma!
Yeah, yeah...
GUNMA


It's not like that at all.
...?
You're trying to get into my head!
Oh, bugger off! Or are you cruising for a black eye!?
Just hear me out, Roland.
Then mind your own bloody business!
Roland...
But you'll regret this.
Fine. I won't say anymore.
What happe-ned?
Yeah? Bite me!

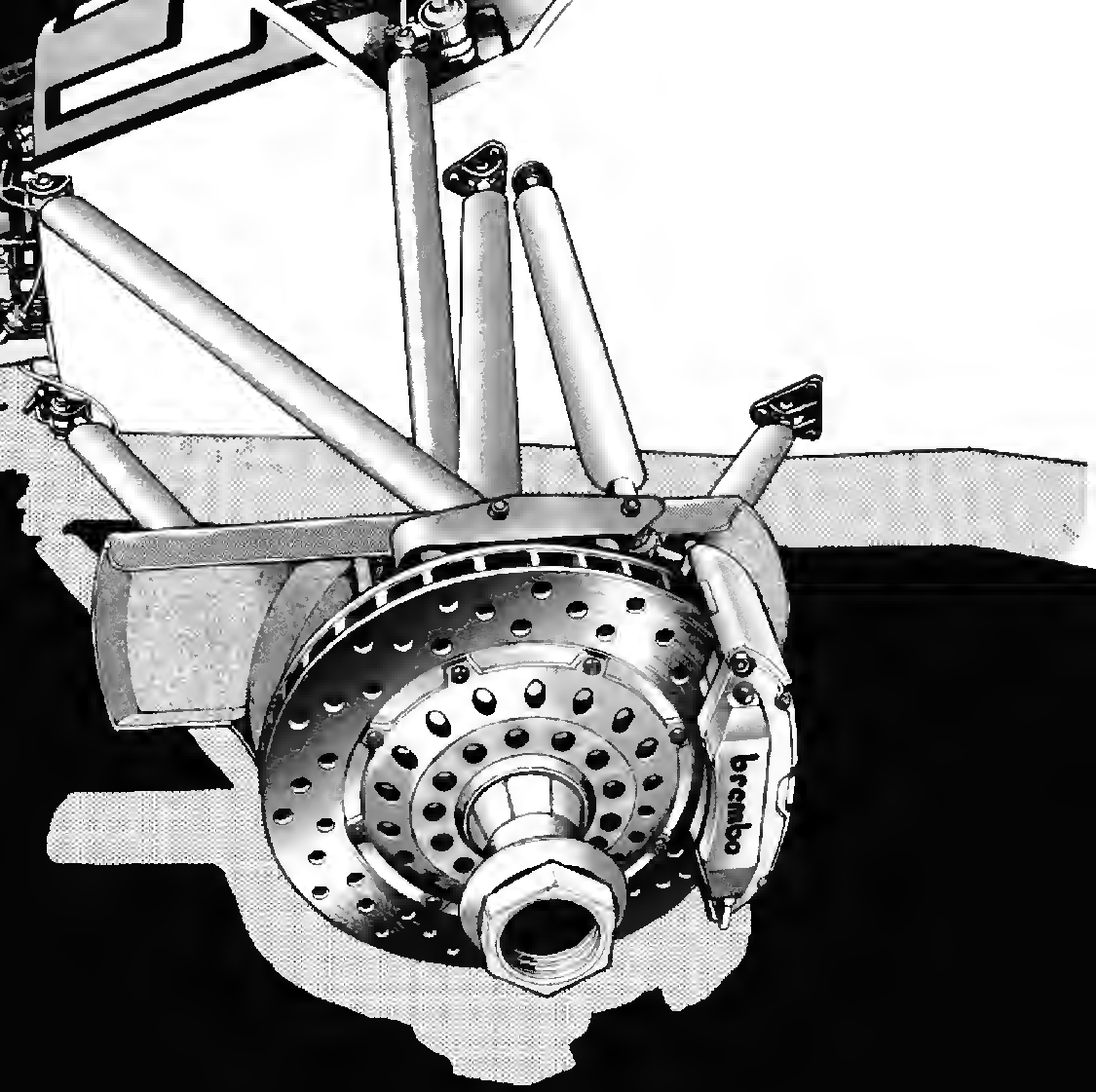
...!?
He's trying to convince me to drop out of the final tomorrow!
Jesus is a big fake, and he needs to piss off!
Saying my life's in danger if I race!
Either way, he's getting under my skin!
Is he a prophet or a bloody swindler!?
But I barely make the cut every year in the preliminary, and usually end up near the bottom in the final race.
I've wanted to race since I was a boy.
And look at me now, racing as an F3000 driver.
...
So I've got to do well in tomorrow's race, or my career is over.
The owner's been on my arse, telling me I'll be fired after the next race or two.


Shell

Crush Jesus, Gunma... If you don't nip this in the bud now, he'll turn this circuit into a bloody circus...

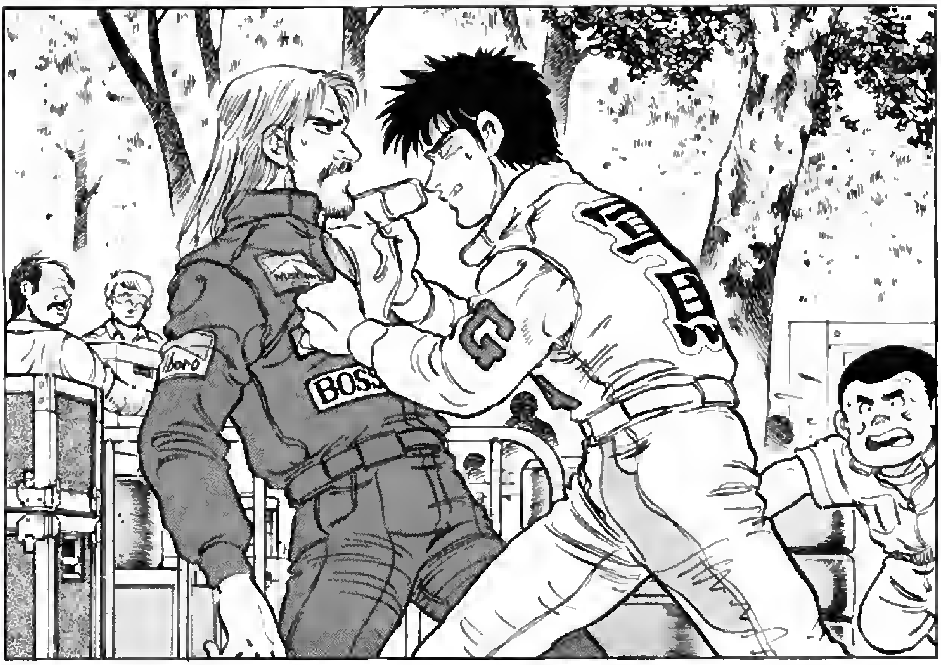
Je–
—sus!

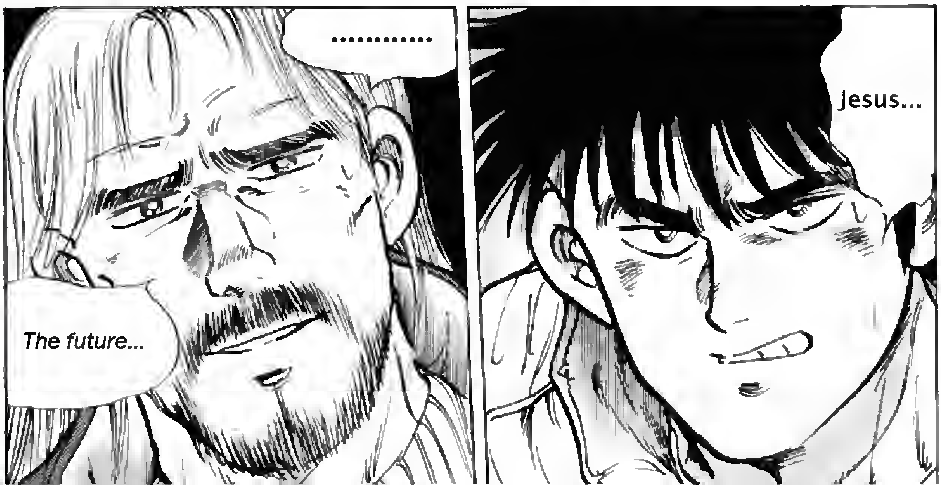
Tell me now...
Gunma...
...what are you hiding, Jesus!?
Gu...Gunma, stop it!



Chapter 9: Predestination

Gu...
Gunma,
stop it!
Gunma...


BOSS


.....
The future...
Jesus...

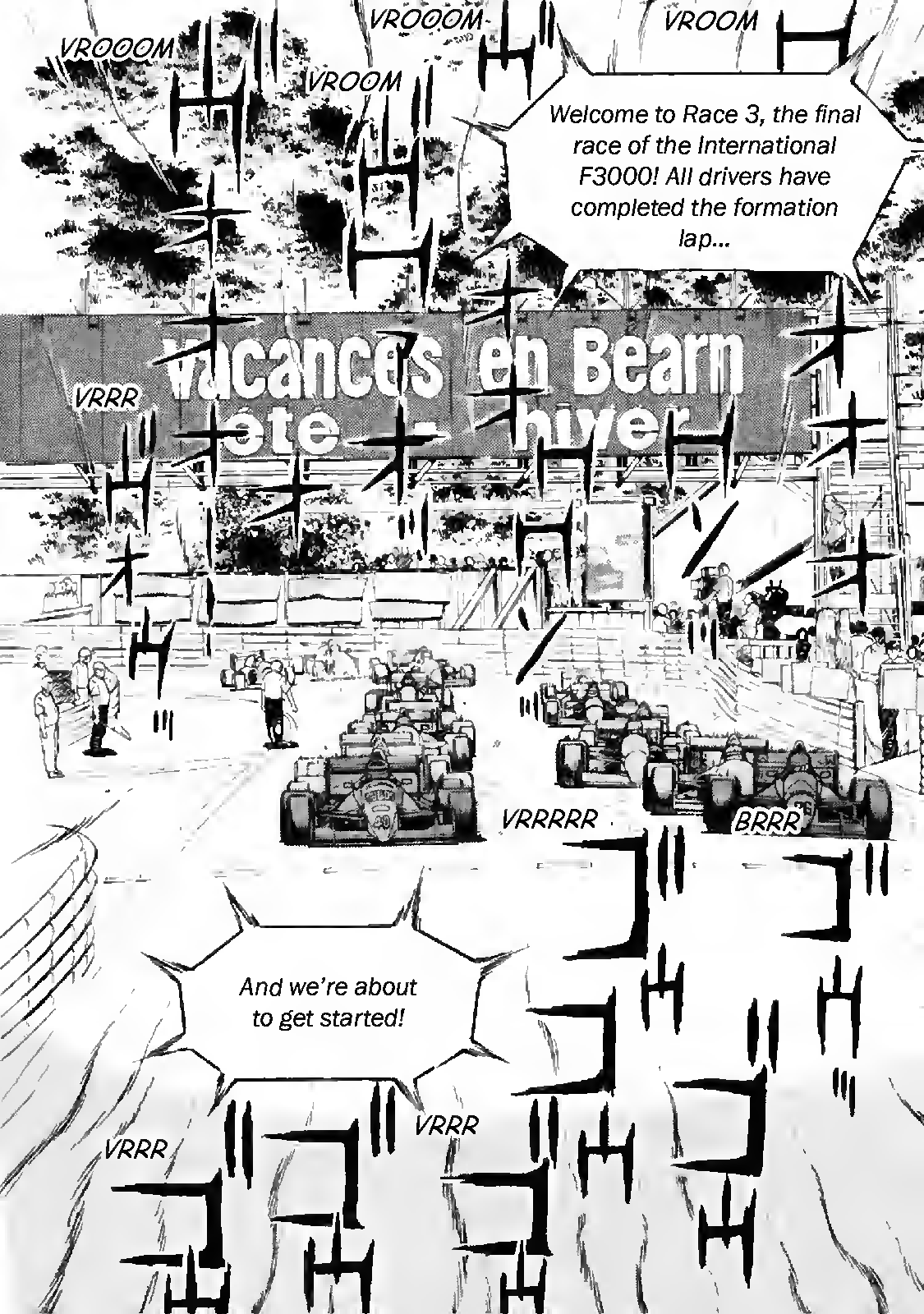
Gunma
...
What!?
...is already decided, for the most part.
I'm gonna knock him out!
Stop it!
L...let go of me!
You need to chill!
Cut that out!
I said hands off!
What happened!?

What do you plan to gain by fighting Jesus!? Huh!?
Thankfully the others put a stop to it...
...but you could've lost your license for this!
You imbecile!
Were you lashing out because of your poor preliminary time!?
...
Are you listening, Gunma!?
...
You were lis-tenin', right?
What did Jesus say to me?
Huh?
Tamo-tsu.
FOOH

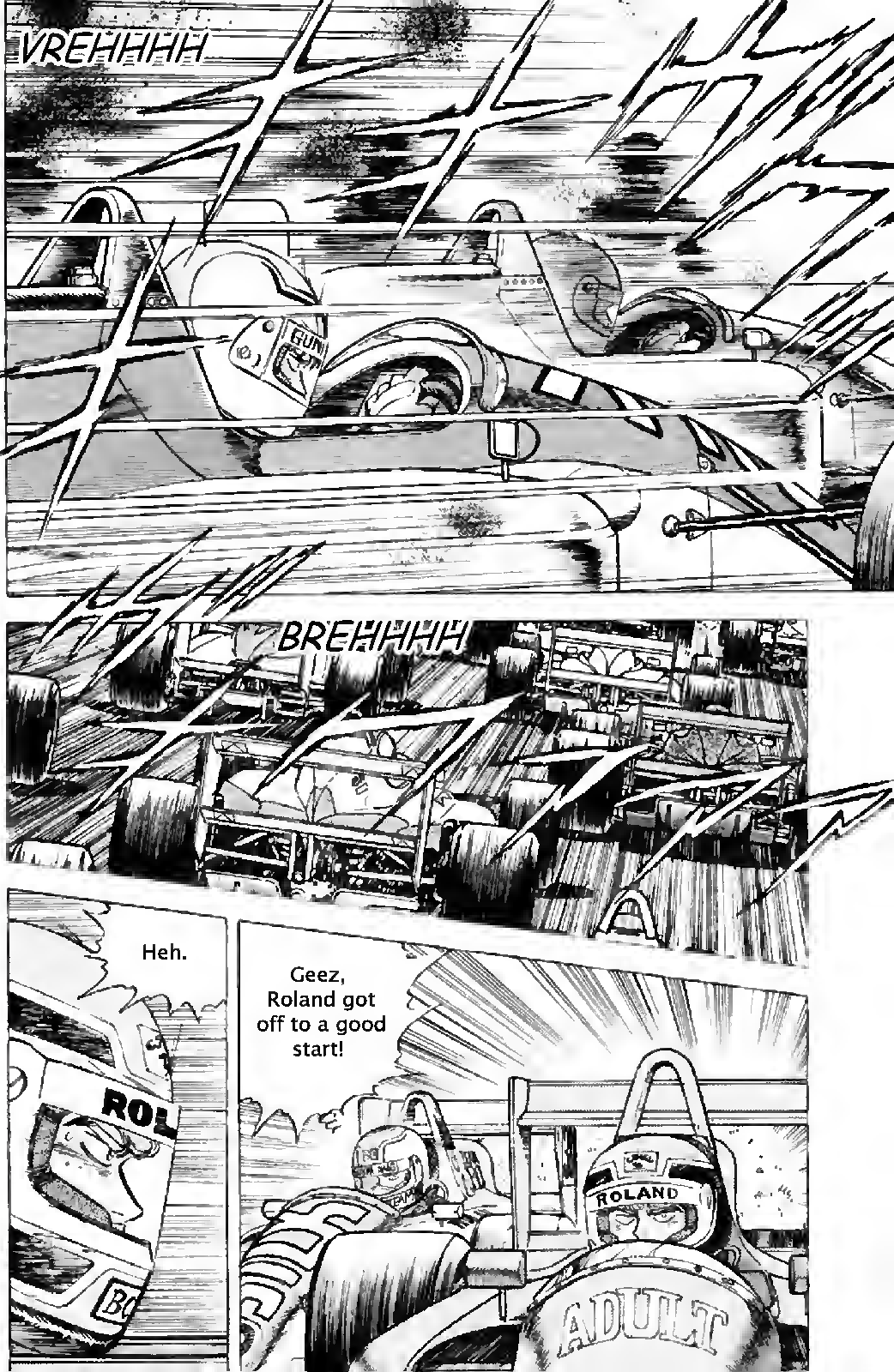
!?
TEAM
He said that the future is decided for the most part...
KNOCK
KNOCK
Tsh, what a phony that guy is.
Can I talk to Gunma?
Heh heh... I'll trans-late.

...
Isn't that lovely?
Heh heh... You and me are starting from the last slot tomorrow.
Keep on barking, but I've got the edge in terms of experience, and I'll be leaving you in the dust!
You really want me to trans-late that?
Nobody gets in front of me!
Tsh... I'll pass you up in a heartbeat, dude.
Anyway...
Do you enjoy makin' enemies?
Whatever... You've been scrapin' by in the lowest rankings for years.
And thanks for sticking up for me!
...I feel in pretty good shape for tomorrow!

Sure.
Let's give it our best!
TCT
His hand is shakin'.
!?
VRRR
VRRR
The future ain't decided!
Don't worry about it, Roland.
VRRR
VRRR
VRRR
RRROOOH
RRROOOH
VRRR


VROOOM
VROOOM
VROOM
VROOM
Welcome to Race 3, the final race of the International F3000! All drivers have completed the formation lap...
Vacances en Bearn
été - hiver
VRRR
VRRRRR
BRRR
And we're about to get started!
VRRR
VRRR

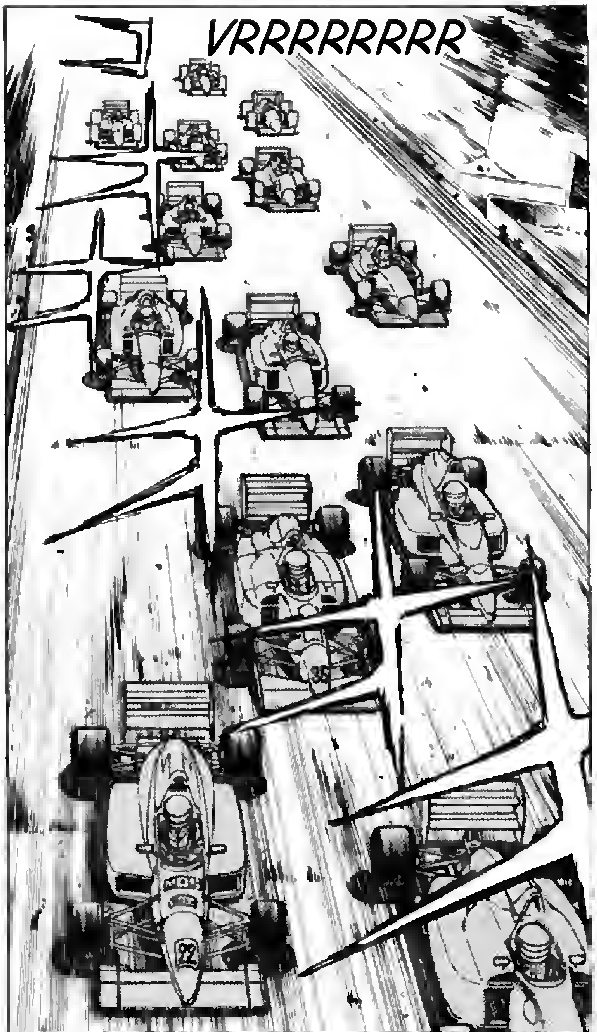
AKAGI
TEAM
AKAGI
ROL
There's the green light!
VRRR
SHUNK
SHUNK

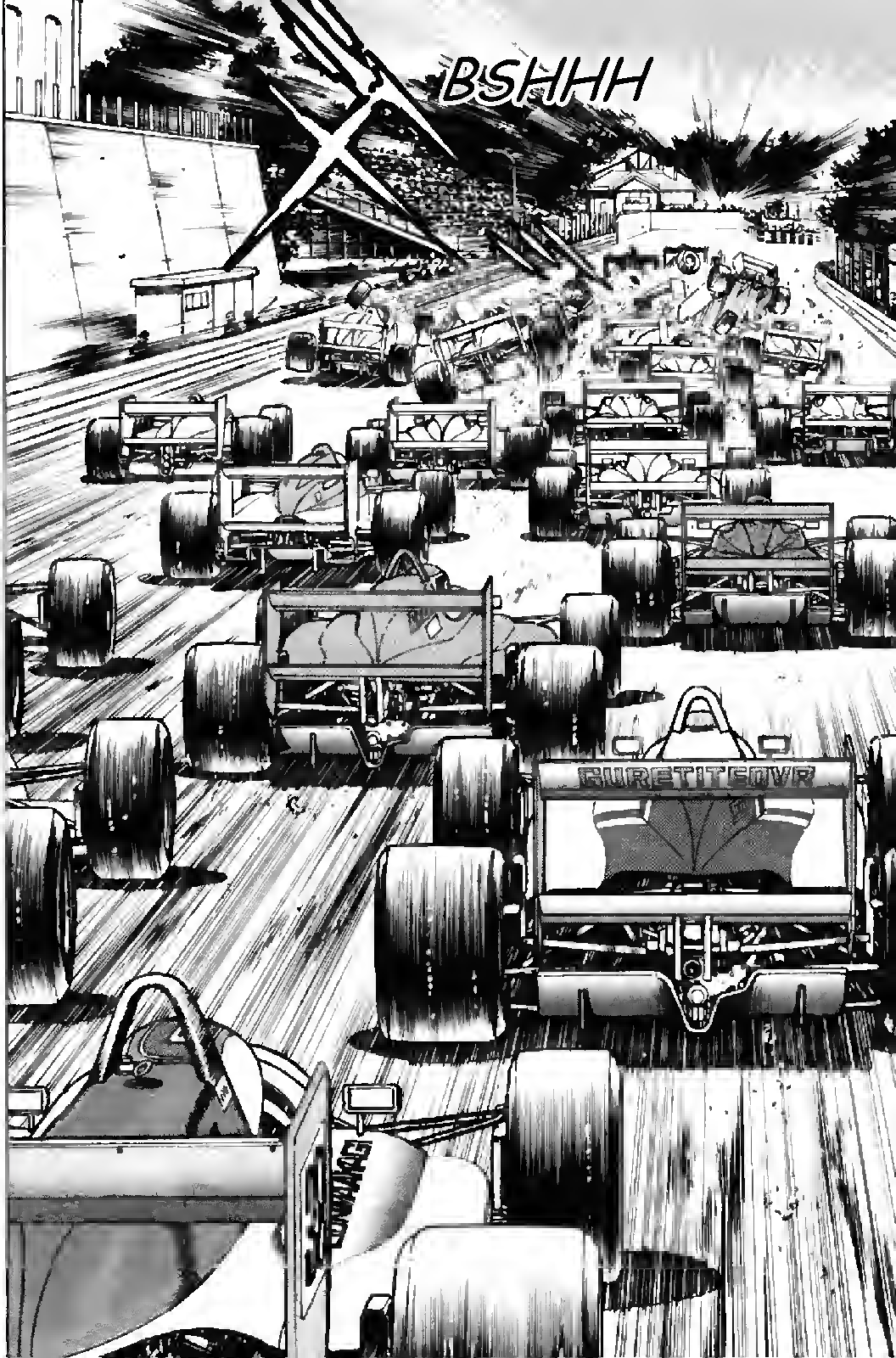

VREHHHH
BREHHHH
Heh.
Geez, Roland got off to a good start!
ROL
ROLAND
ADULT

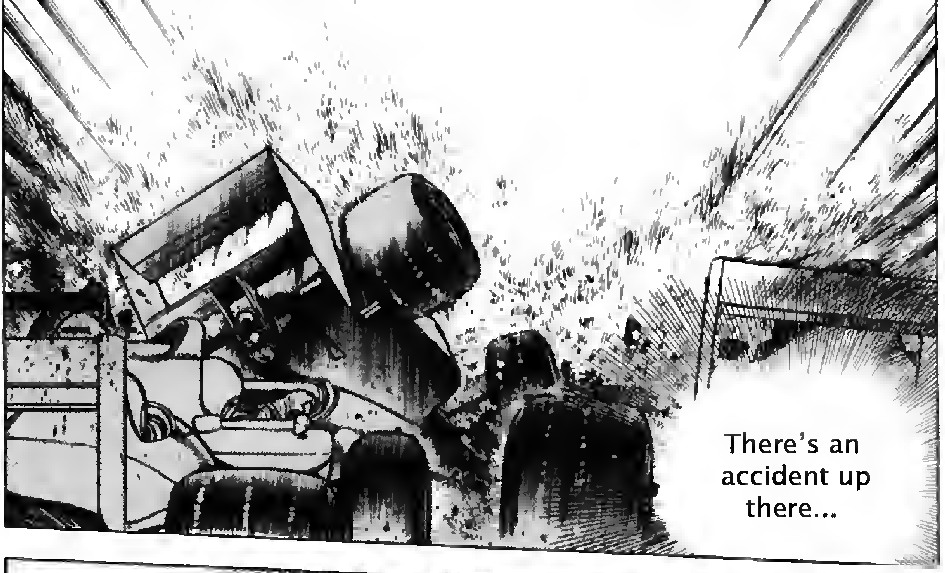
You'll regret this.
Drop out of the final race, Roland.
ROLAND
Go to hell...

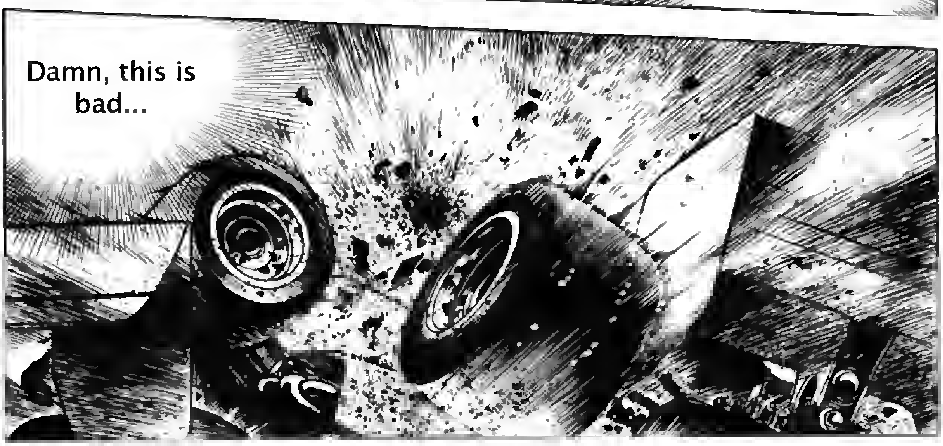
Think yer pretty hot, do ya?
BUNNA AIKAWA

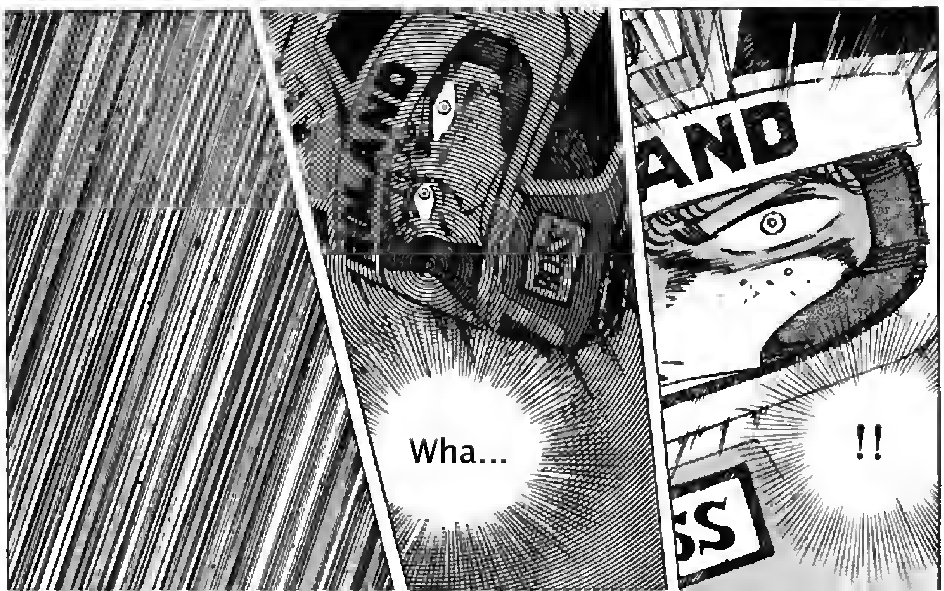
CAMEL
ROLAND
BOSS

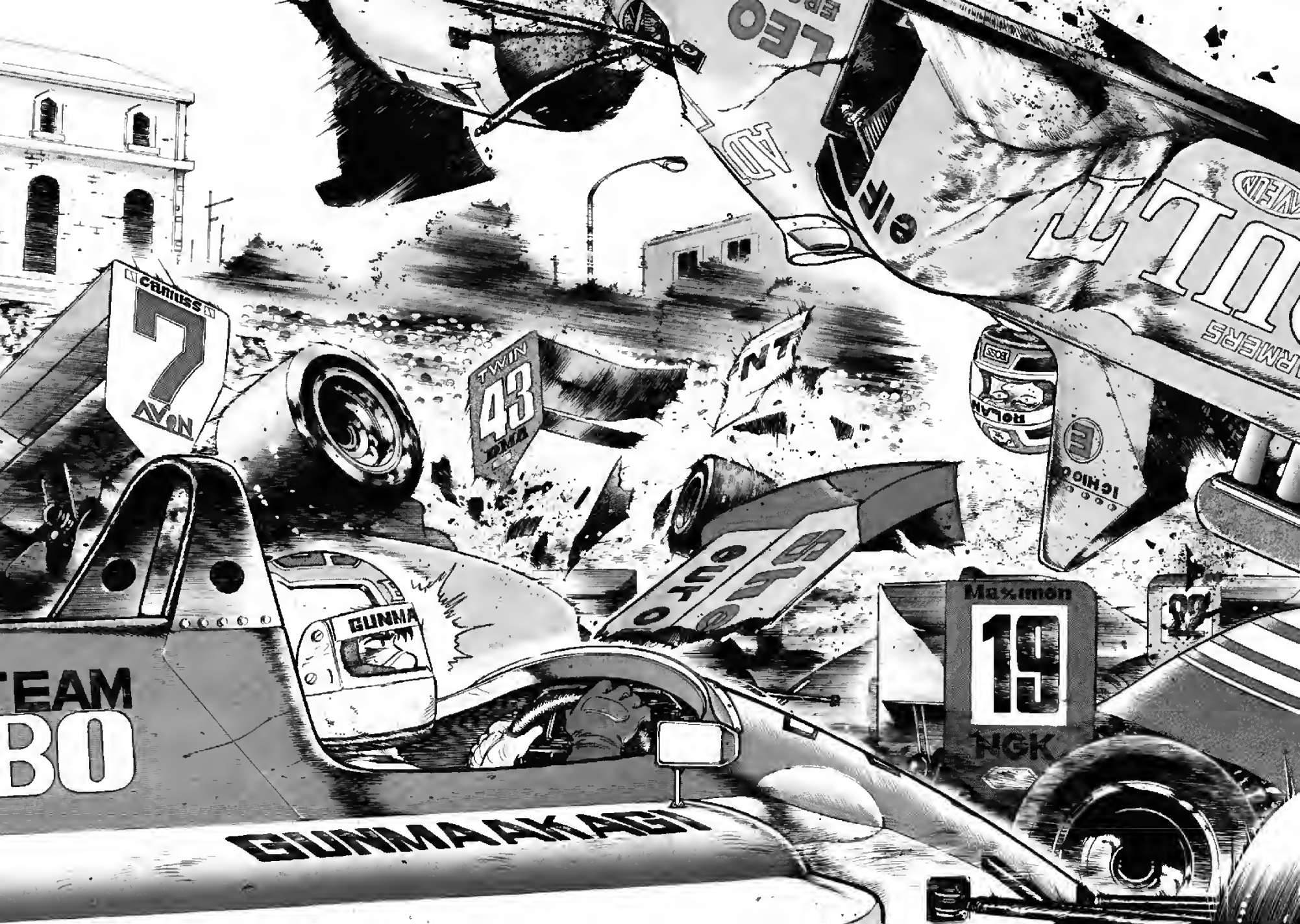

VRRRRRRRR


BSHHH
RUBETITSOVR

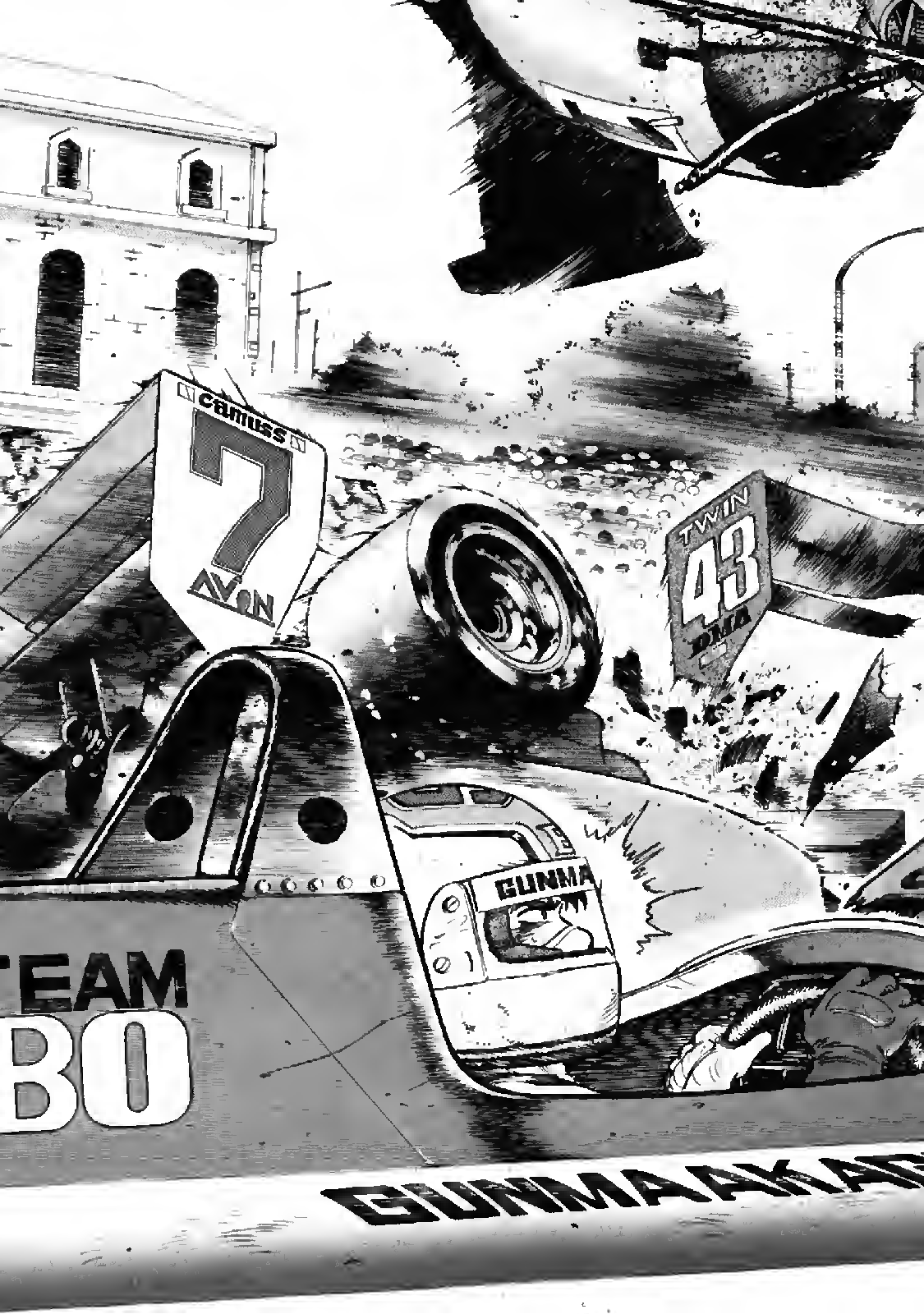

There's an accident up there...

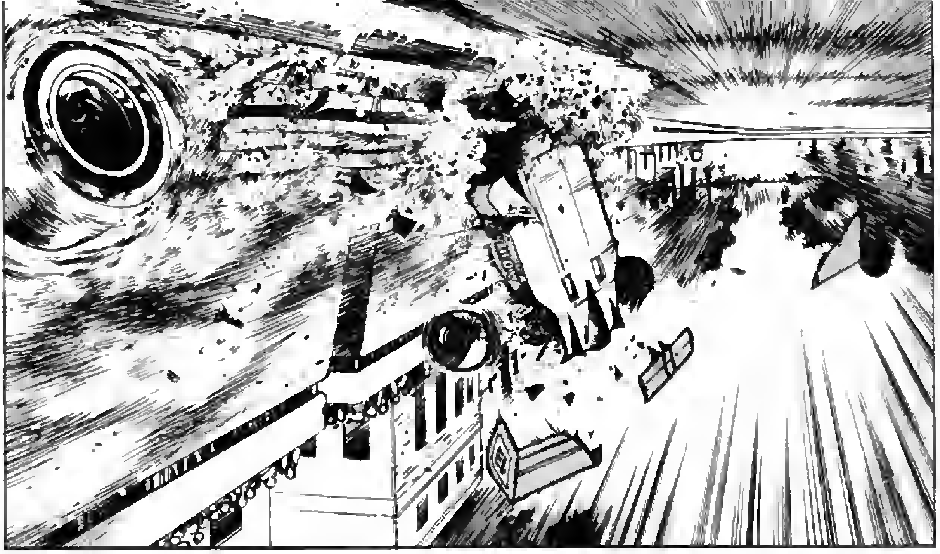

Damn, this is bad...

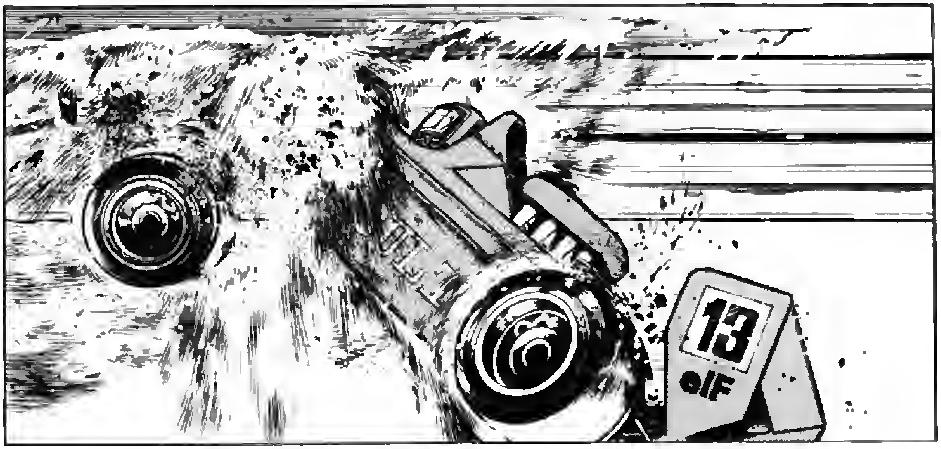

Wha...
!!

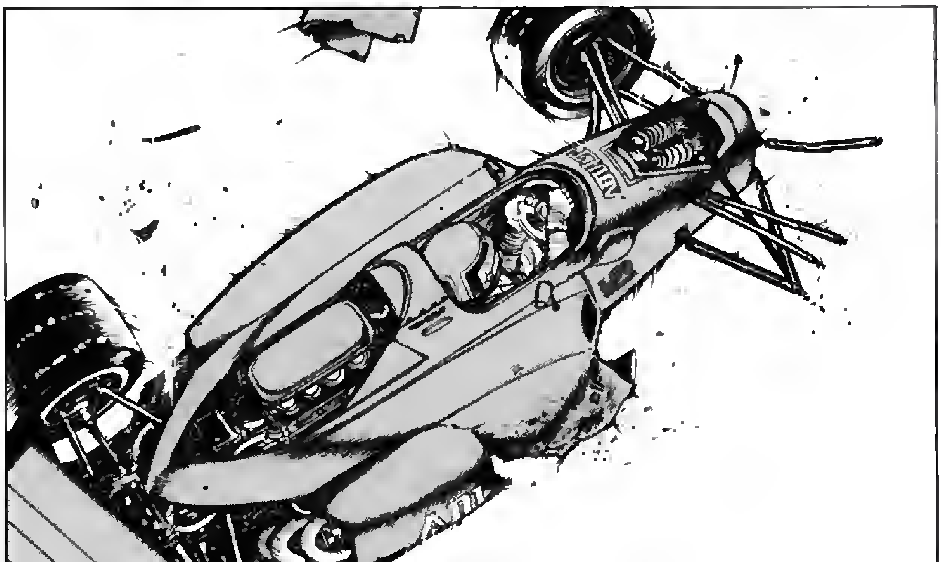

7
AVON
TWIN
43
DMA
GUNMA
GUNMA AKAGI
TEAM
BO
Maximon
19
NGK
LEO
elf
ROLAN

elf
Mαxιmon
19
NGK

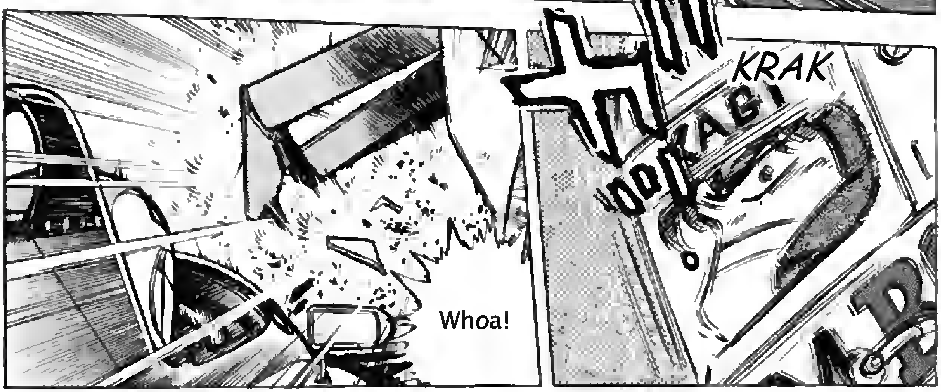

7
AVON
TWIN
43
GUNMA
TEAM
BO
GUNMA AKAGI

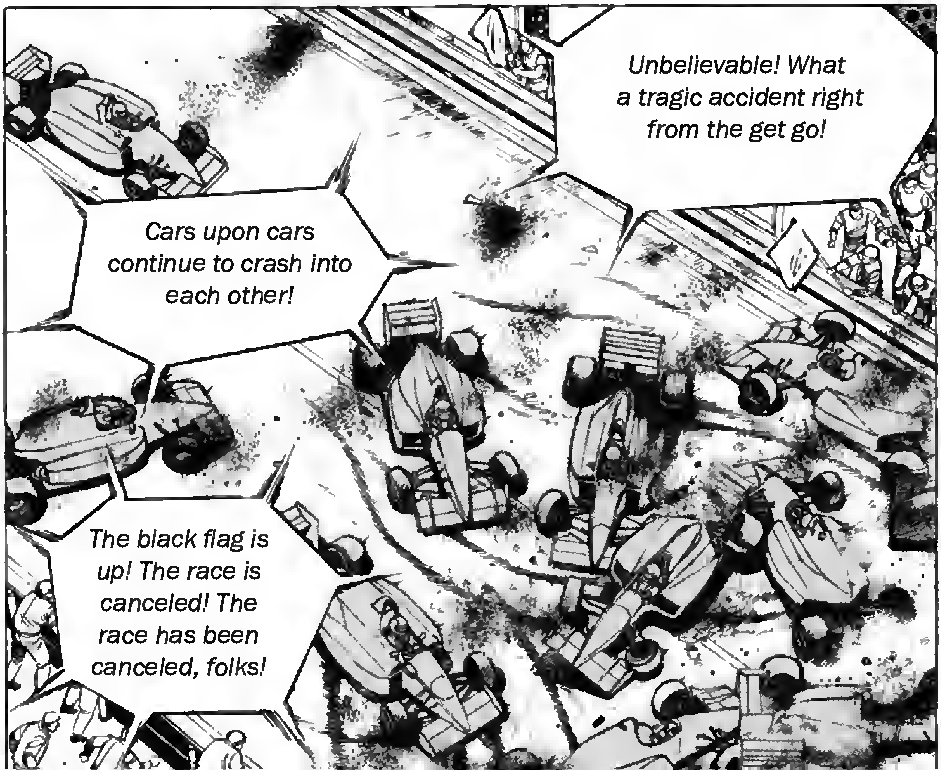


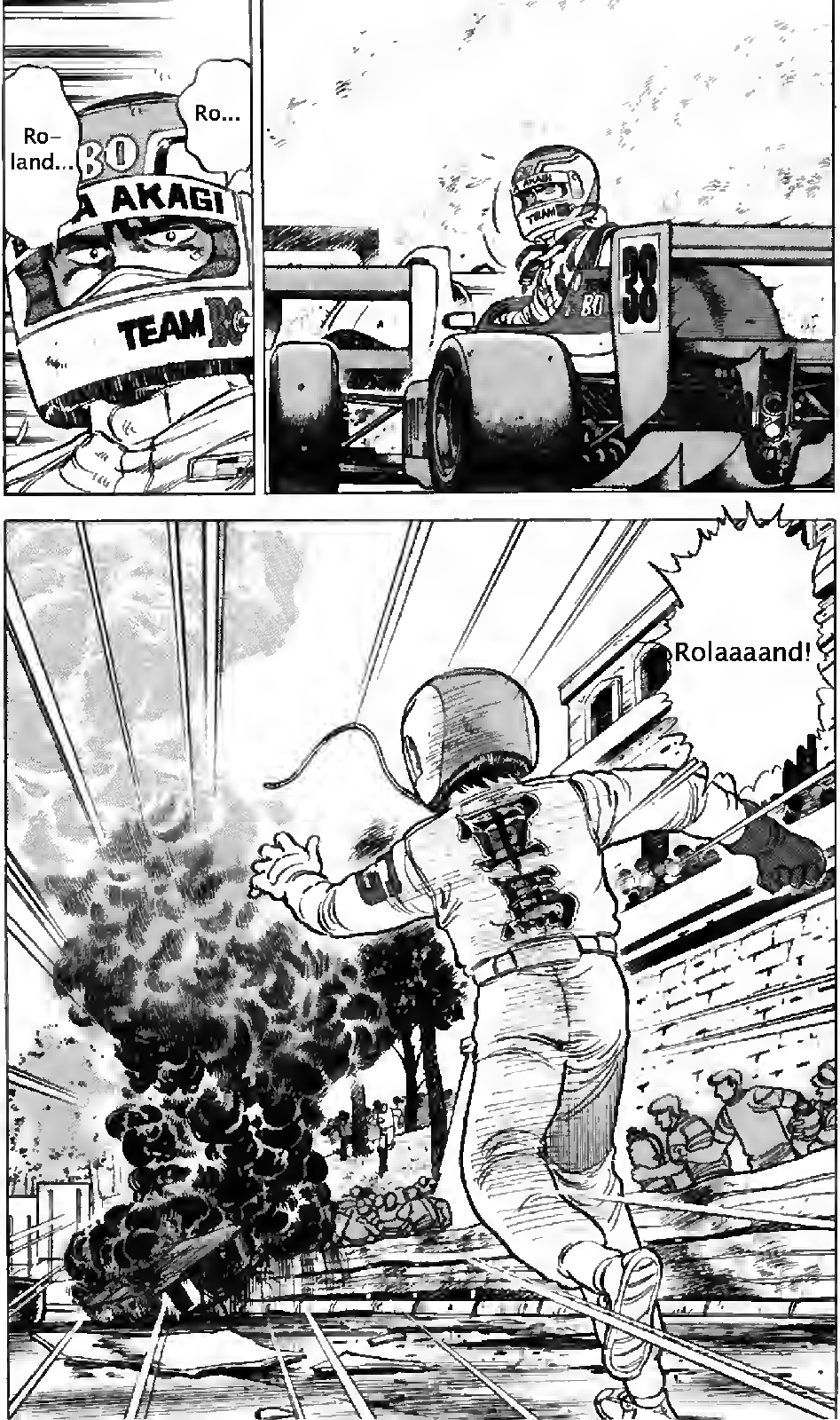

13
IF



ABI
AMR
Whoa.

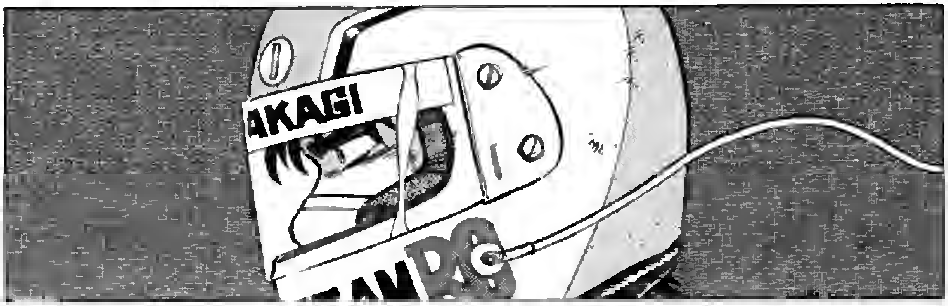

KRAK
KABOOM
Whoa!

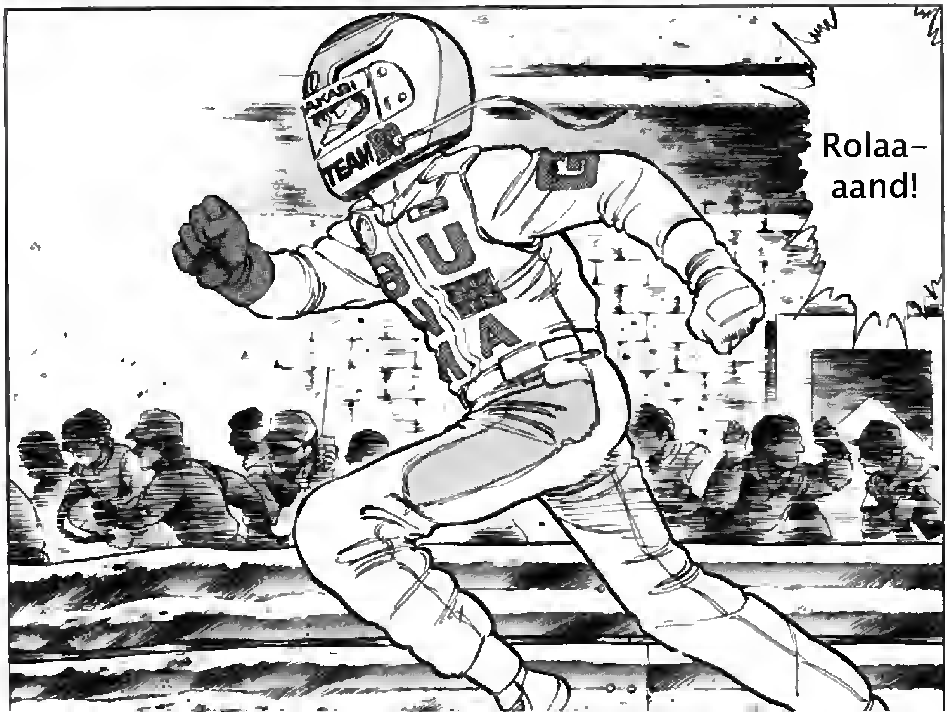

Unbelievable! What a tragic accident right from the get go!
Cars upon cars continue to crash into each other!
The black flag is up! The race is canceled! The race has been canceled, folks!


Ro-
land...
Ro...
AKAGI
TEAM
38
Rolaaaand!

Chapter 10:
Restart
TEAM

VROOOOH


AKAGI


AKAGI
TEAM
Rolaa–
aand!

The third race in the International F3000 Series, held in Pau France...

...was thrown into chaos due to a pile up of multiple cars, and the chairman waved the black flag to restart the race.

A loss of life that's left thousands in shock on this tragic day in Pau France.

AKAGI

TEAM

...was slow to get out of his flaming car, and was later pronounced dead.

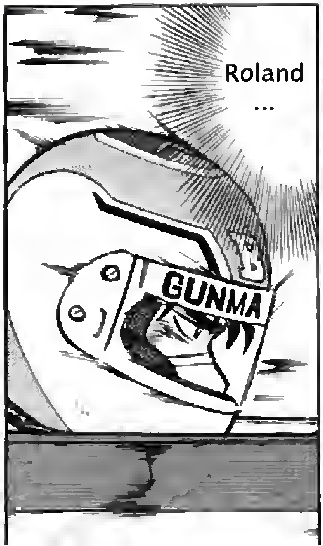
A total of 18 cars will be lining up on the grid for the restart, with four racers officially out.

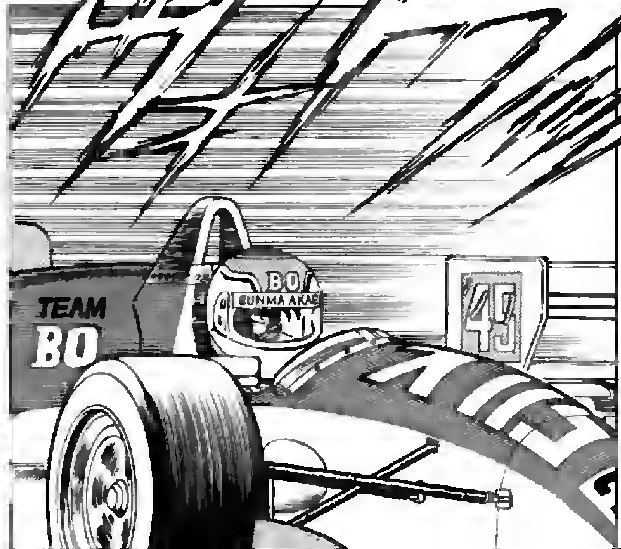
Among the four drivers who will not be racing, one of them, Roland Auster...

GUNMA AKAGI

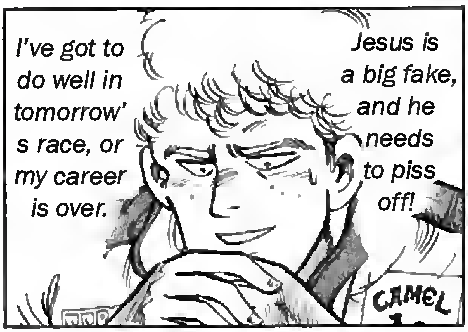
TEAM

VROOOOM
They're about to restart the race after a 50-minute standby!
VRRRRRRR
VRRRRR


Roland
...
GUNMA

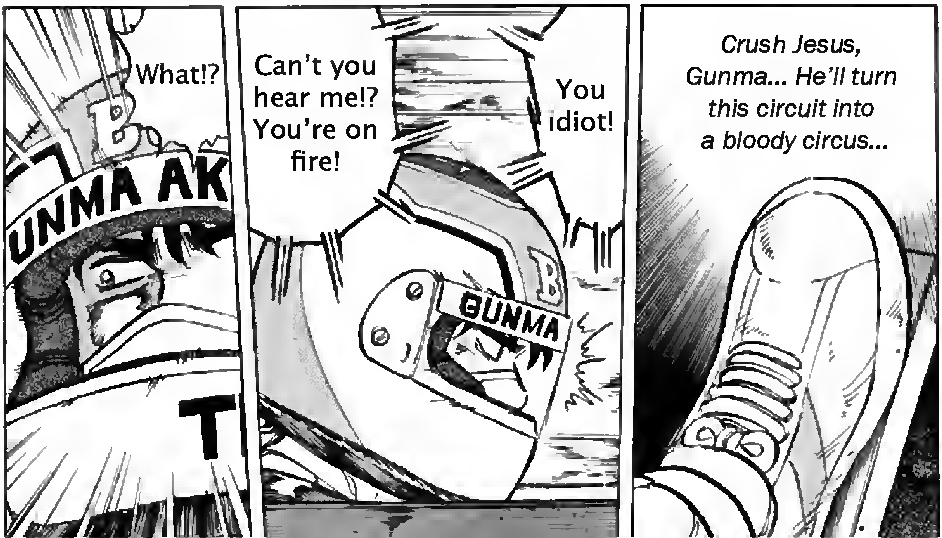

TEAM
BO
BO
GUNMA AKAGI
43

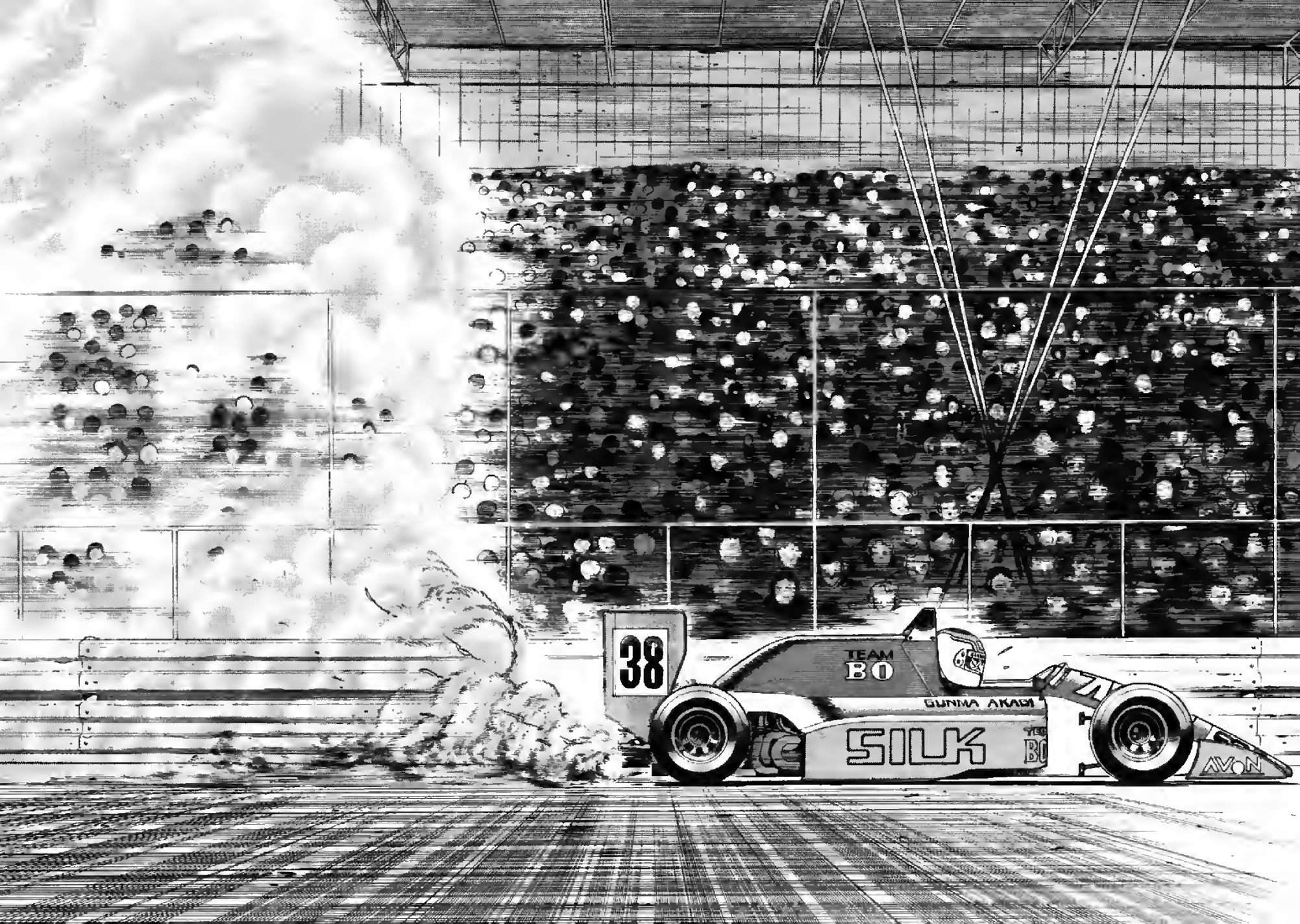
GUNMA
The future is already decided, for the most part.

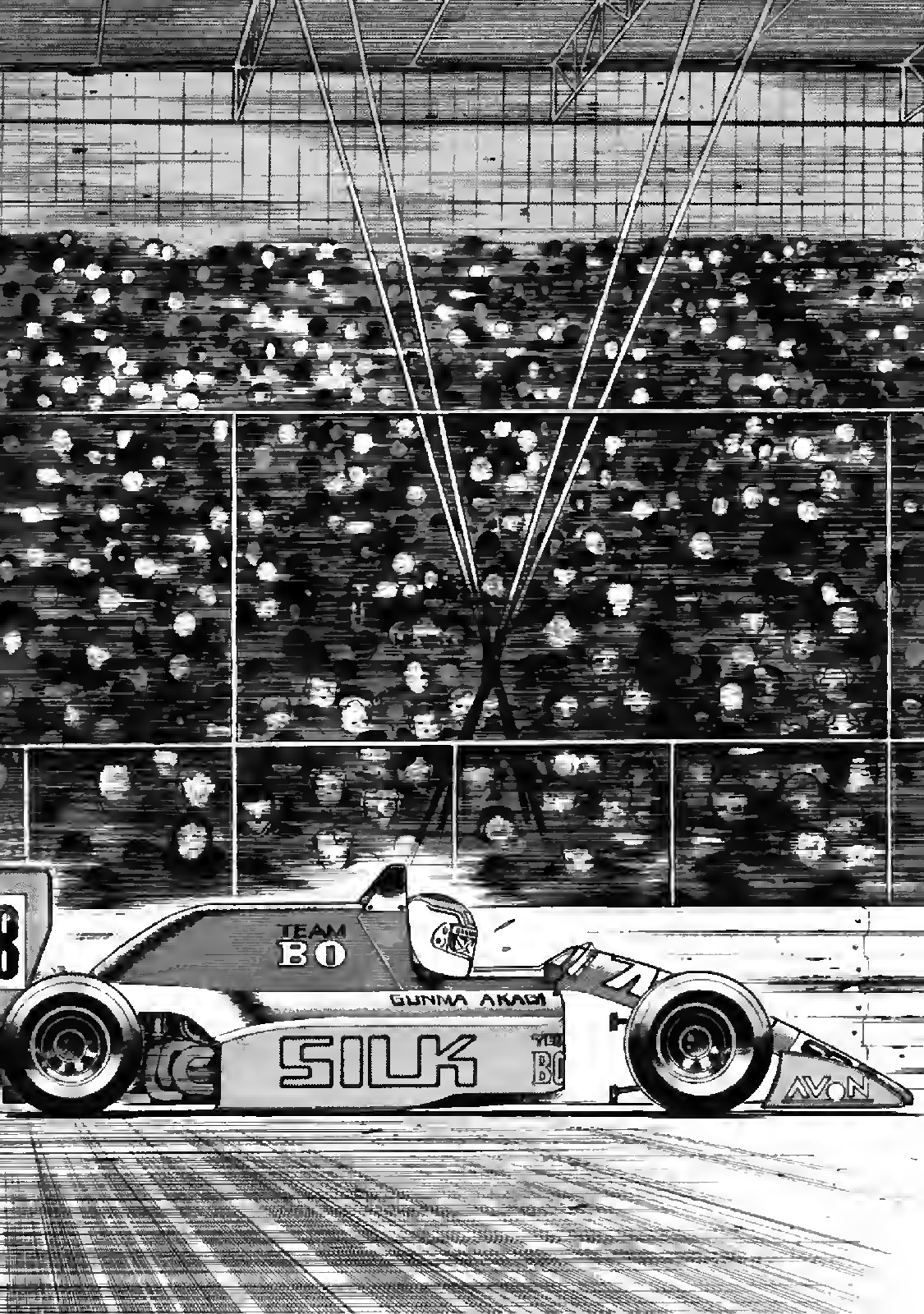

I've got to do well in tomorrow's race, or my career is over.
Jesus is a big fake, and he needs to piss off!
CAMEL

NMA AKA
Ro-land ...

Roland...
I've admired racers since I was a boy... And look at me now, racing as an F3000 driver!

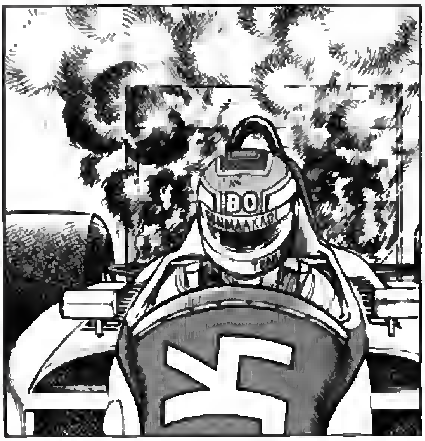

What!?
UNMA AK
Can't you hear me!? You're on fire!
You idiot!
GUNMA
Crush Jesus, Gunma... He'll turn this circuit into a bloody circus...


38
TEAM
BO
GUNMA AKABI
SILK
AVON


TEAM
BO
GUNMA AKAGI
SILK
AVON

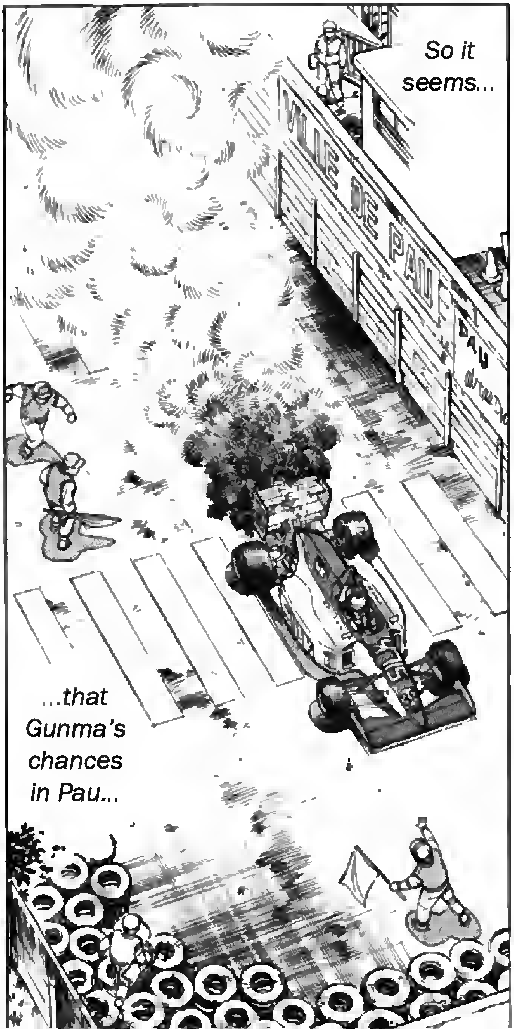
38

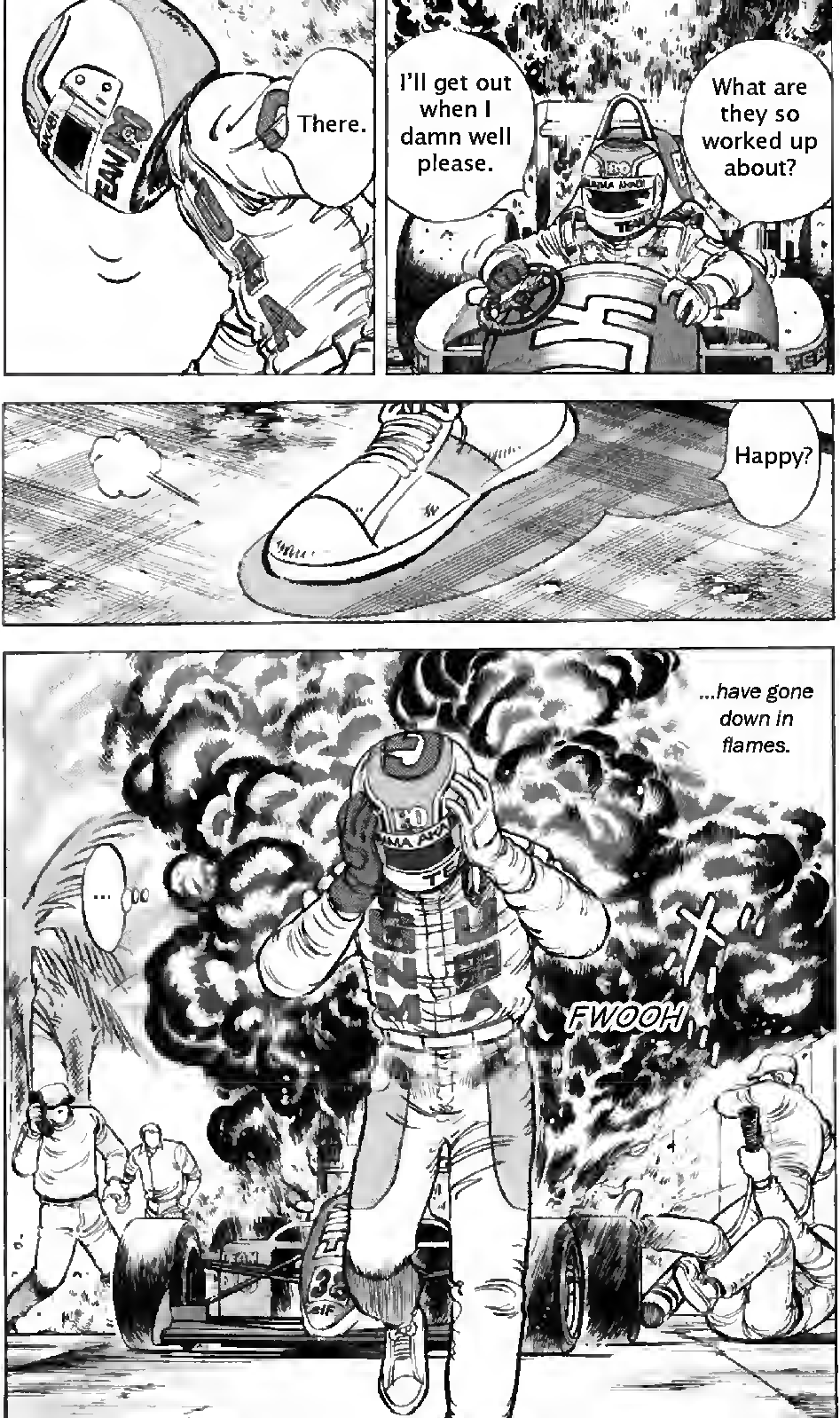
Dam-
mit.
...!
FWOOH



AKAGI

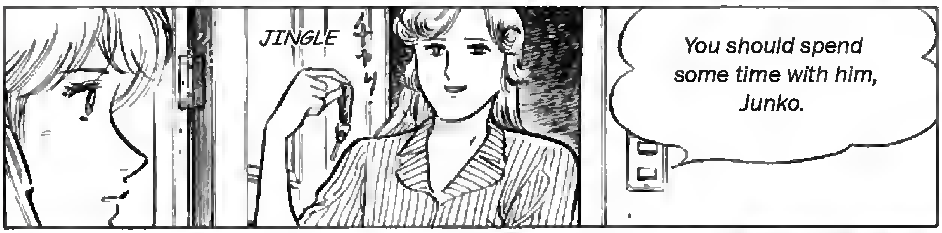
Get out of the car!
Now!

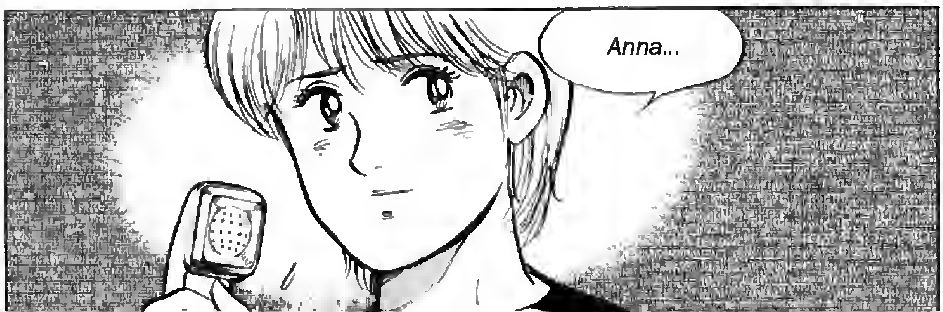

So it
seems...
...that
Gunma's
chances
in Pau...


There.
I'll get out when I damn well please.
What are they so worked up about?
Happy?
...have gone down in flames.
...
FWOOH

Junko?
It's me, I'm at the airport.
Just me. I came back alone.
I don't know what the others are doin'.
My car blew up, so I'm out.
10

...
... every now and again.
I wanna talk...
We oughta go eat some-where.
Orman's Jaguar must be there, right? How about comin' to pick me up?


JINGLE
You should spend some time with him, Junko.

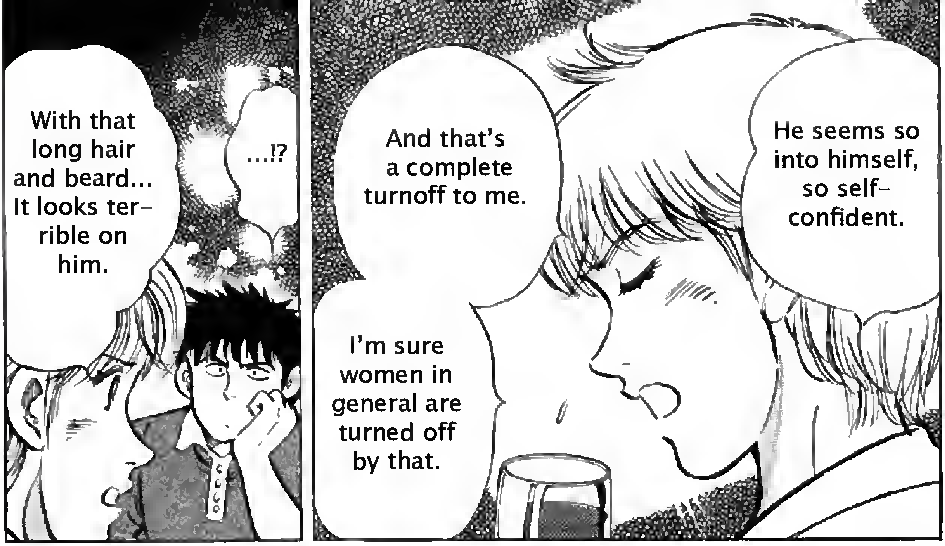

Anna...

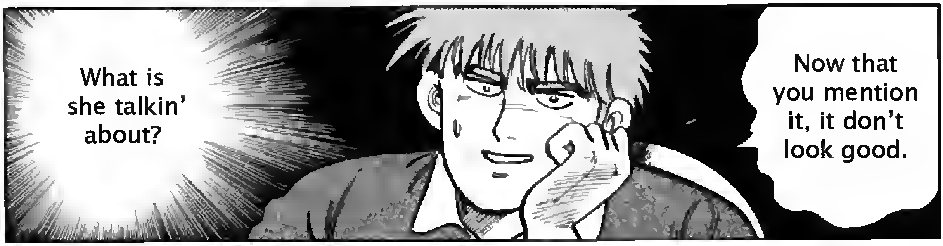
It's nothin'.
Just a few minutes in, it went "boom."
Before I even got through a lap
When you said your car blew up, you had me wor–ried.
Are you okay?

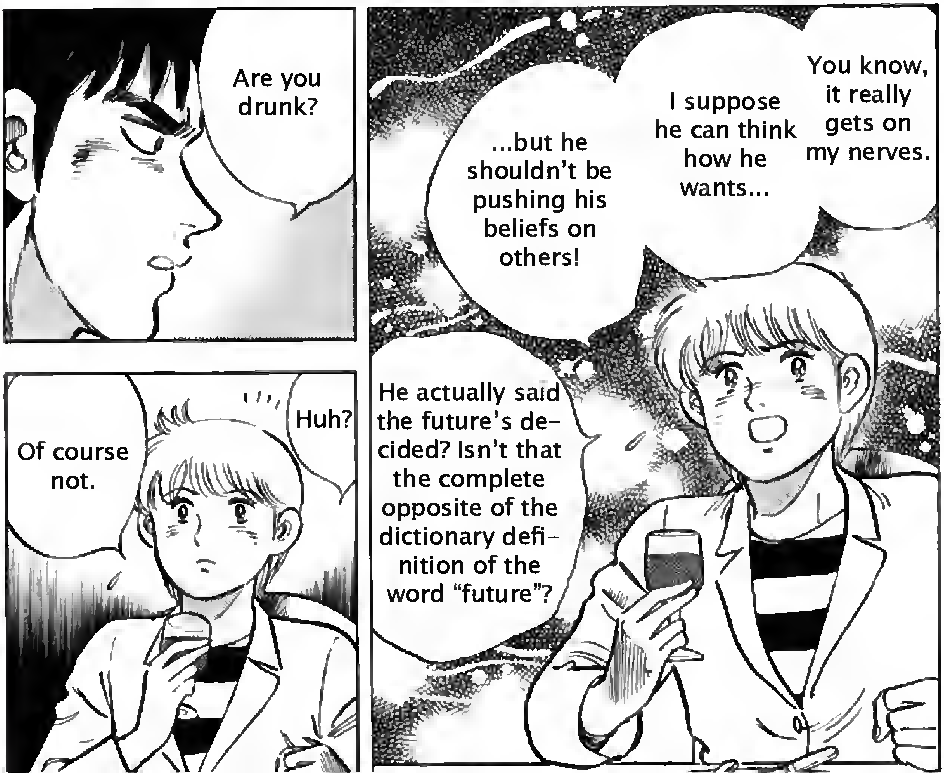
Let's see here...
Oh yeah?
Hm-hm...
?
This is a real classy place.
Anna told me about it.

My car blew up, I'd be stupid not to be down.
Did some-thing happen?
You seem a little down today.
...already decided.
He said the future's...
Huh?
You know...
But isn't "stupid" what you do best?
Oh!
...but he didn't listen, and now he's dead.
Jesus can see the future, and he told this guy not to race in the final...

...so they spend their time kickin' and strugg-lin' to do this or that...
And the stupid people of this world don't know that...
...but it's all for nothin', 'cause the future's already decided.
He said the future's de-cided.
Heh.
Crazy, huh?
...or maybe in the afterlife, and say these words...
...maybe on their death bed...
And in the end, they mellow out...
You know?
"What the hell was I thin-kin'?"
...
Huh?
...I really don't like him.
Well...

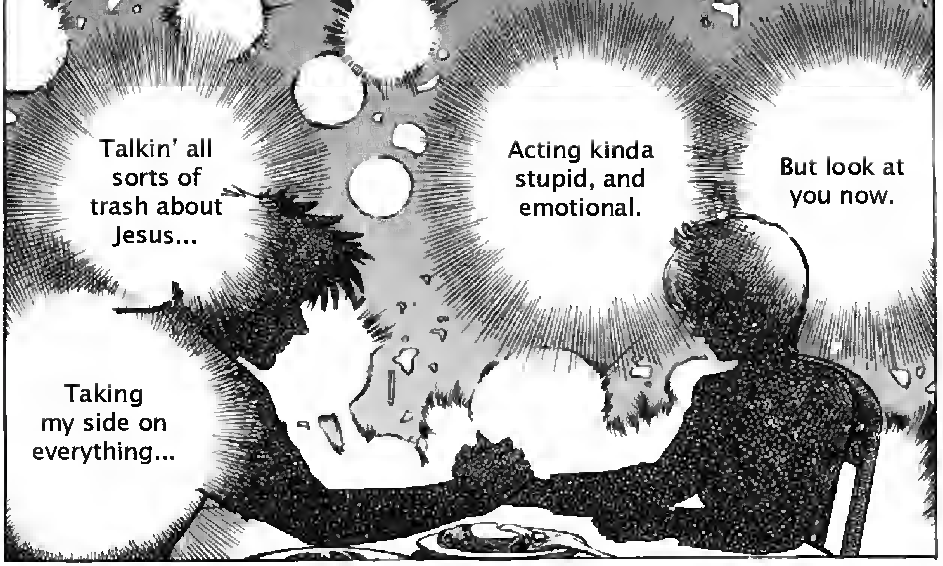

With that long hair and beard... It looks terrible on him.
...!?
He seems so into himself, so self-confident.
And that's a complete turnoff to me.
I'm sure women in general are turned off by that.

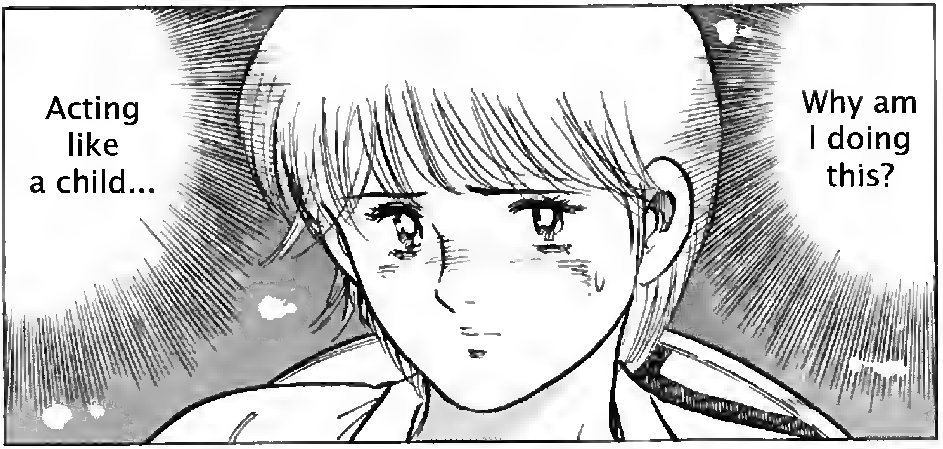

What is she talkin' about?
Now that you mention it, it don't look good.


Are you drunk?
Huh?
Of course not.
You know, it really gets on my nerves.
I suppose he can think how he wants...
...but he shouldn't be pushing his beliefs on others!
He actually said the future's decided? Isn't that the complete opposite of the dictionary definition of the word "future"?

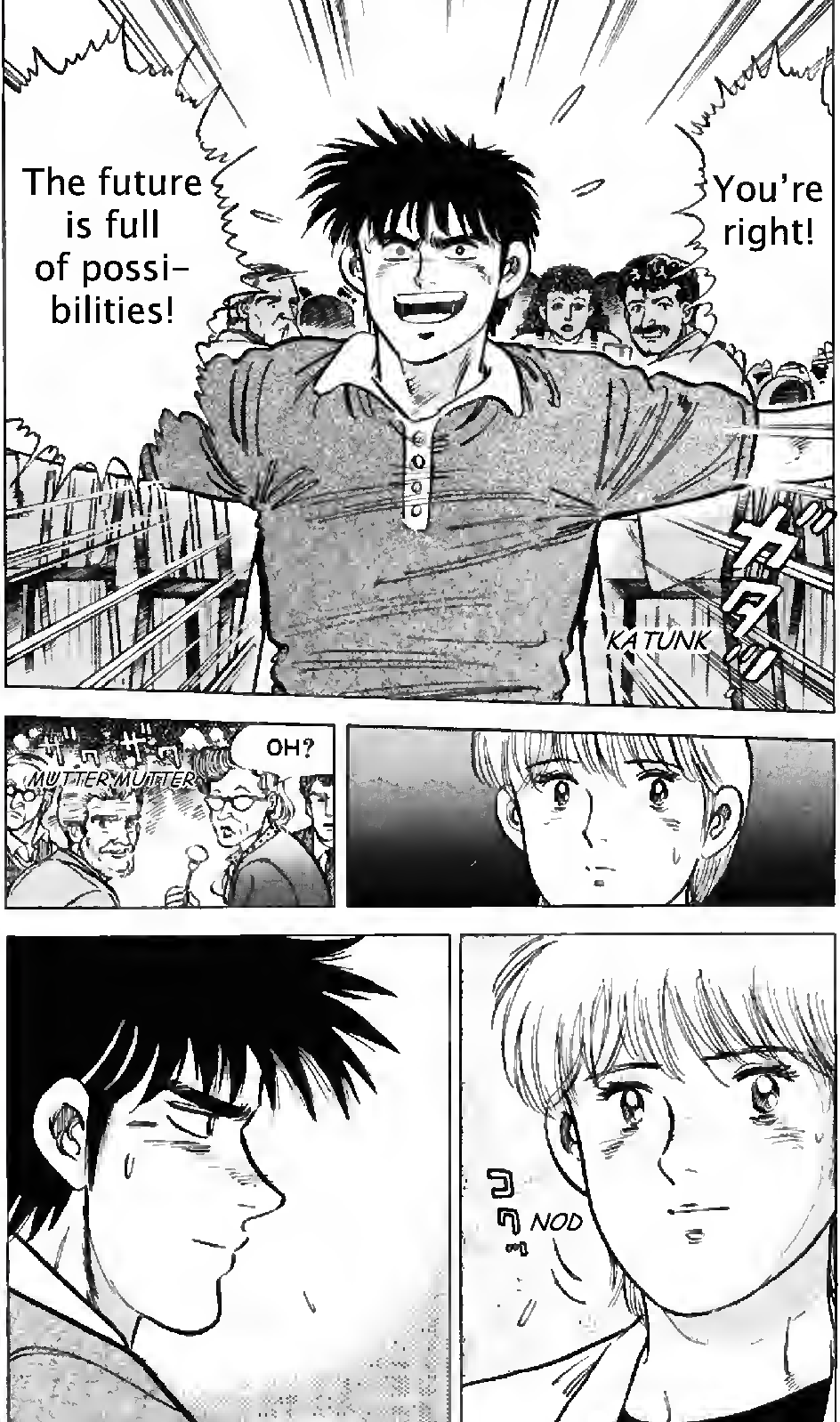
SCRATCH
ポリ
ポリ
SCRATCH
I guess it's like...
...you're kinda out of character?
Well ...
I mean ...
Why would you say that?
...
TUNK
Doesn't he get on your nerves, Gunma!?
I mean, there ain't nothin' wrong with it.
Am I acting strange ...?
KACHINK
Really!?
Out of character!?
I could never learn to like someone like that!
Yeah, I'm acting pretty weird.
Or more specifically...
...in our own future, right!?
It's because we believe in ourselves!
Why are we even alive!?
And isn't he denying that!?
Maybe I am... I must sound so weird right now.

What's happe-ning!?
Oh, sorry.
I get what yer sayin', but do me a favor and stop wavin' that knife around.
GRIP
ガッ
When I look at Gunma, I get so worked up, and childish.
CLANK
カラン
I'm acting so emotional, like an irra-tional child.
...
I don't unders-tand.
What's happe-ning to me!?
You're older than me, a driving instructor who fell in love with Ryuji...
Intellectual, with a strong will, and always so guarded...
Gunma ...
And when did you get so frail...
I never knew your hands were so small.


Talkin' all sorts of trash about Jesus...
Acting kinda stupid, and emotional.
But look at you now.
Taking my side on everything...

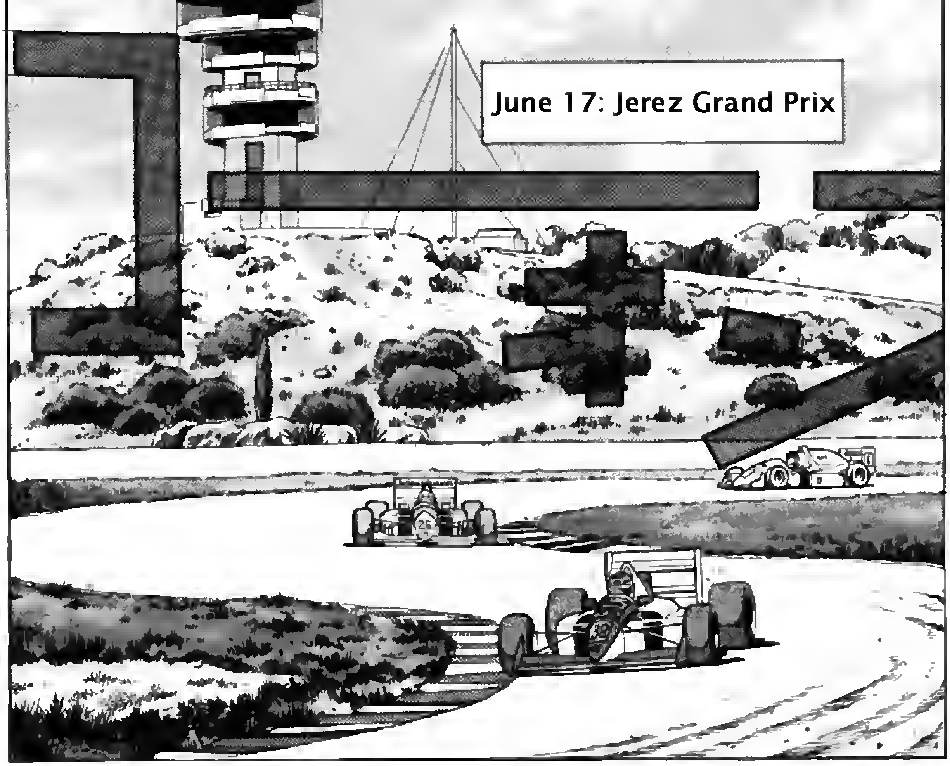

Acting like a child...
Why am I doing this?

Junko...
I love you!


The future is full of possi-bilities!
You're right!
KA TUNK
MUTTER MUTTER
OH?
NOD

UNMA AKAGI
38
elf

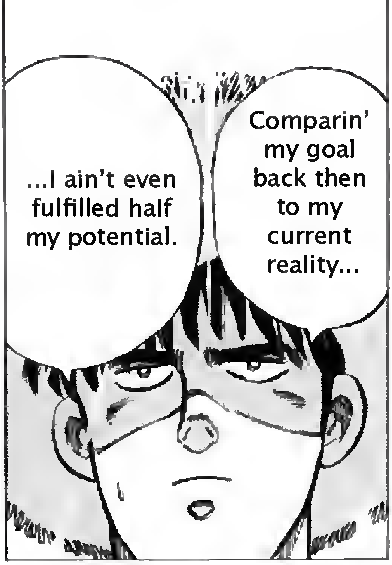
Chapter 11: To Be Forgiven

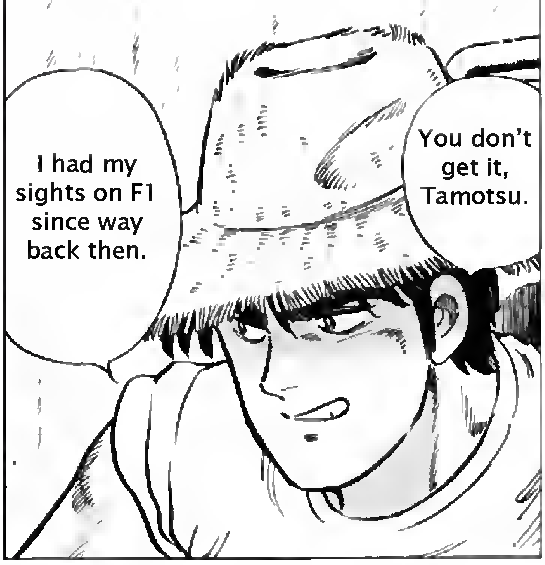

June 17: Jerez Grand Prix

June 24: Monza Grand Prix
LT21
AGNET
ARELL

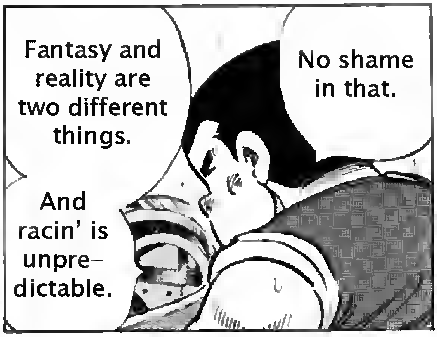
July 22: Enna-Pergusa Grand Prix
CAMPARI
VREEEEHHHH
21
ANDREW BECKENN
TEAM
50
First at Enna.
First at Monza.
Third at Jerez.
Second at Hocken-heim.
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR

CHIRR
CHIRR
Two first place runs in a row, and third in Jerez.
How's that?
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
It's perfect.
...two measly wins ain't enough.
If I wanna get into F1...
That wasn't your fault.
I crashed out in Pau.
At this rate, F1 is right around the corner!
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
But yer movin' way up the ladder.
Heh heh heh...
...you've made a helluva lot of progress!
Thinkin' back to when we used to putt around on that tractor out in the boonies...
CHIRR
CHIRR


...I ain't even fulfilled half my potential.
Comparin' my goal back then to my current reality...


I had my sights on F1 since way back then.
You don't get it, Tamotsu.

Brands Hatch is comin' up.
Any-way...


Fantasy and reality are two different things.
And racin' is unpre-dictable.
No shame in that.

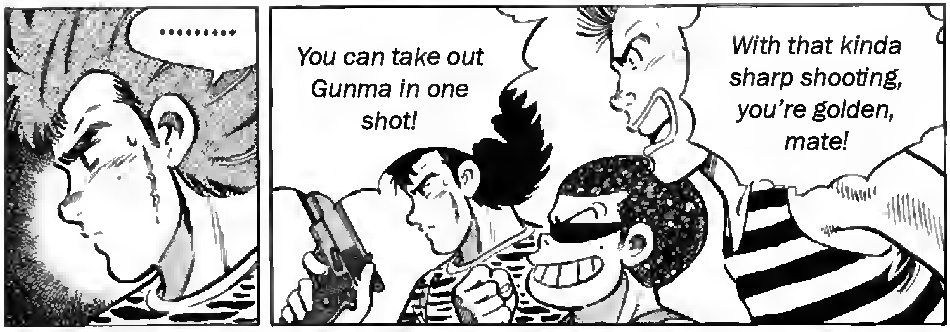
What do you mean?

Otherwise I'll go nuts!
In that race, and Birmingham, Le Mans, Nogaro, and Dijon after that... I'm gonna get first in all of 'em!

I couldn't live with myself!
You know what I mean.
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR

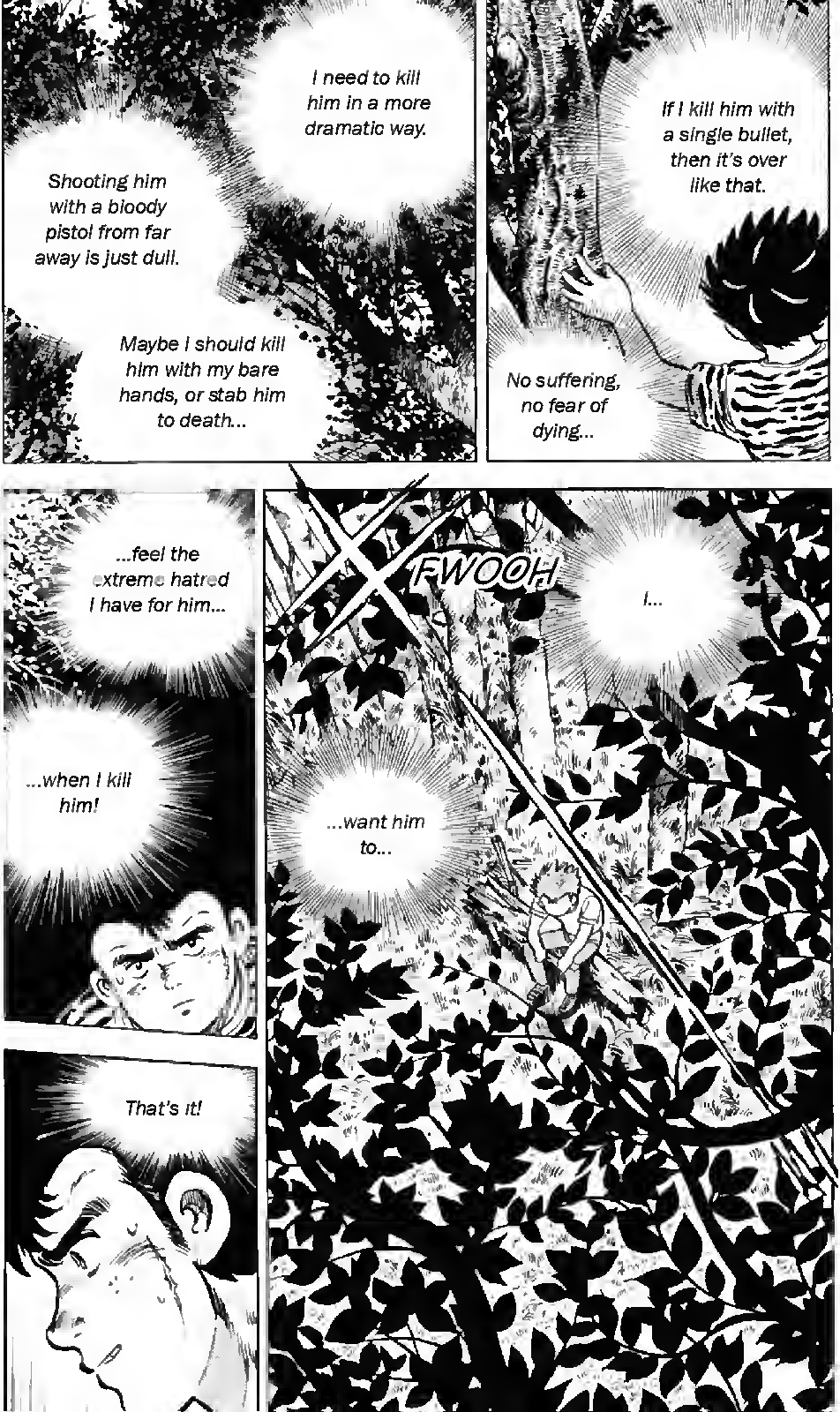
So he can't live with himself, huh...
Typical Gunma.
TAP
TAP
TAP
Hmm...
Relax!?
I'm worried about him.
But he's gotta relax a little more.
Don't worry about it, Tamotsu. That's usually the case with guys who imagine themselves higher up the ladder.
TAP
TAP
TAP
KACHUK
That's not our job!
...!?

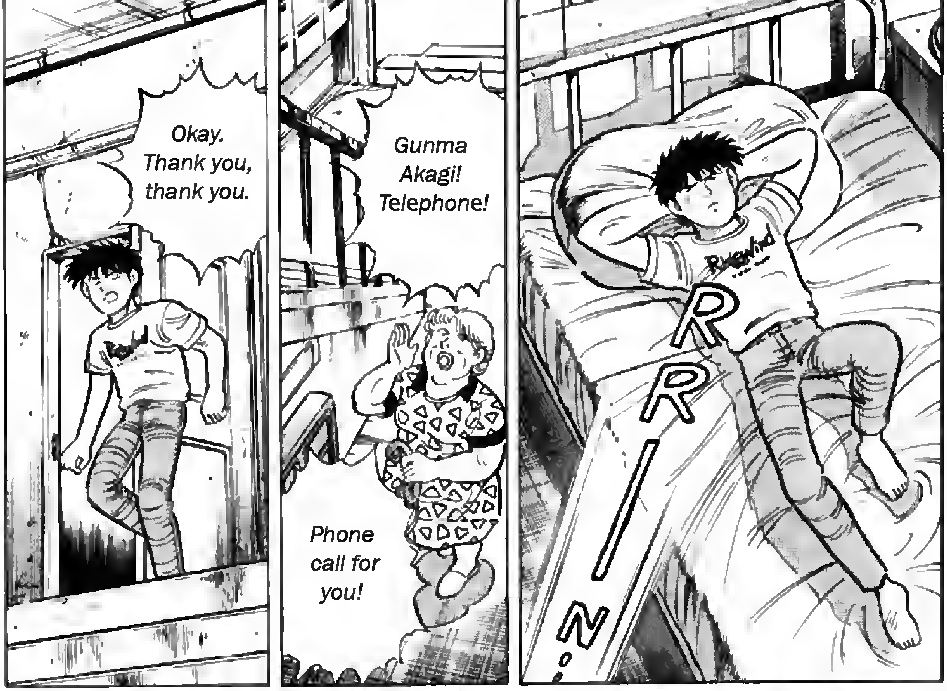
Nice shot!
Nine outta ten is pretty damn good, Peabow!
PWING

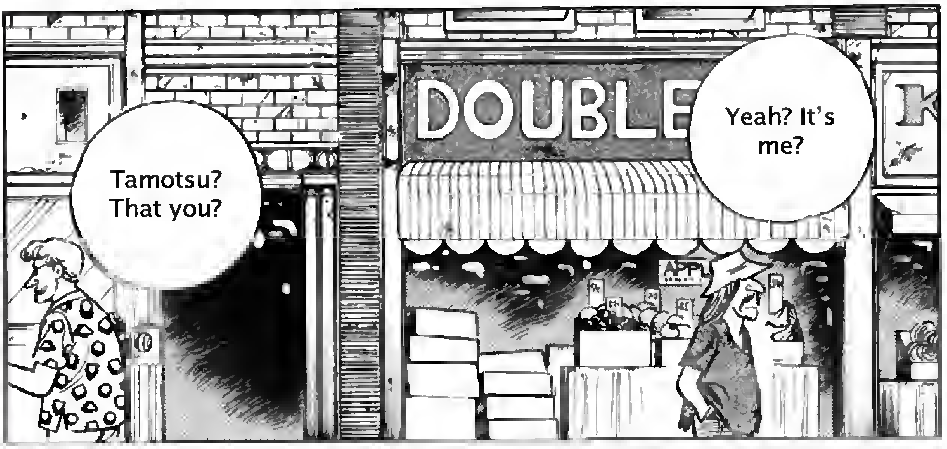

.....
You can take out Gunma in one shot!
With that kinda sharp shooting, you're golden, mate!

.....
You can snuff him out at the next race, in Brands Hatch!
For a walk... In the woods.
Hey, where are you going!?

So I got a gun...
...but I don't like it.
The better I get, the worse I feel.


I need to kill him in a more dramatic way.
Shooting him with a bloody pistol from far away is just dull.
Maybe I should kill him with my bare hands, or stab him to death...
If I kill him with a single bullet, then it's over like that.
No suffering, no fear of dying...
...feel the extreme hatred I have for him...
...when I kill him!
That's it!
FWOOH
I...
...want him to...


Okay. Thank you, thank you.
Gunma Akagi! Telephone!
Phone call for you!
RRIN!


DOUBLE
Tamotsu? That you?
Yeah? It's me?

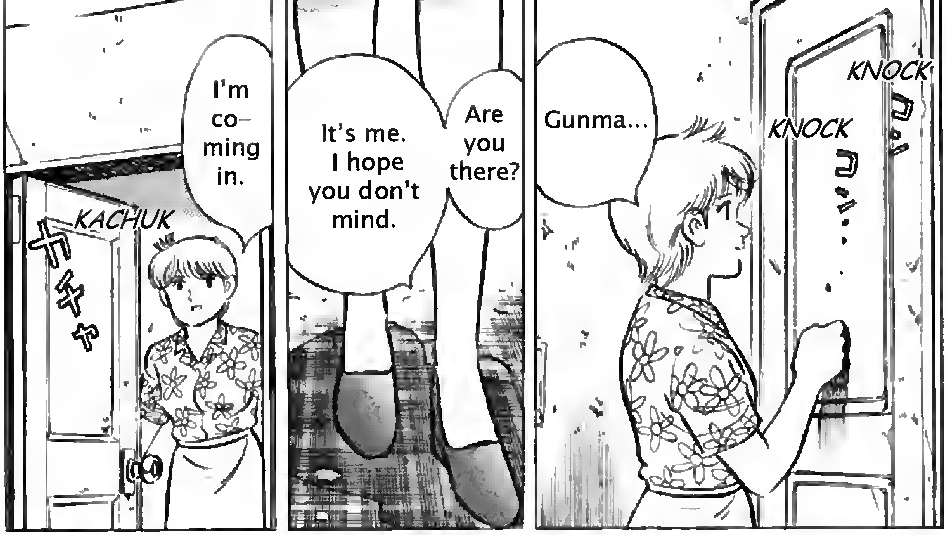
Pea-bow.
!?
It's been a while.
It's me, Gunma.

Pea–
bow!
...
Where the hell are you, you idiot!?
And what are you doin'!?
Ride the Wind
Motor Sports
I thought we were family!
The hell it ain't you little twirp!
...none of your busi–ness!
That's ...
You shoulda...
Yer the ones who left! Not me!
You shoulda been more...
After dumping Sako...
How can you say that?
What's done is done, and I don't give a crap.
Never mind.
I don't even wanna go there.
...!

I slept with...
...Junko.
...!
But guess what. The reason I called...
...was to tell you some-thing pretty interesting.
...!?
Yeah? Like what?
Slept with...
...Junko?
Is that what you said!?
Ju... Junko...?
What do you mean?
...
And I had sex with her! Are you listening? I screwed her three or four times!
Junko's the one you love the most.

We appre-ciate this. Just have a little talk with him.
To loosen him up a bit.
KACHUK
IRK
He's probably at the apartment.
IRK
I'll give it a try.
Junko can't be out here alone.
I'm going with her.
But Mr. Kuroi...
GRIP
You promised we'd get drunk back at my place, remember?
...what I can do.
I'll see...

...
VRRRRRR
There's times in a man's life when he needs a woman.
Both the mind and the body.
Don't sulk.
...
Just going with what comes naturally.
It's what's best for the both of them.
And the body!? Mr. Kuroi, don't you think...
...
Get what I'm saying?
He's been trying to shoot the moon all by himself.

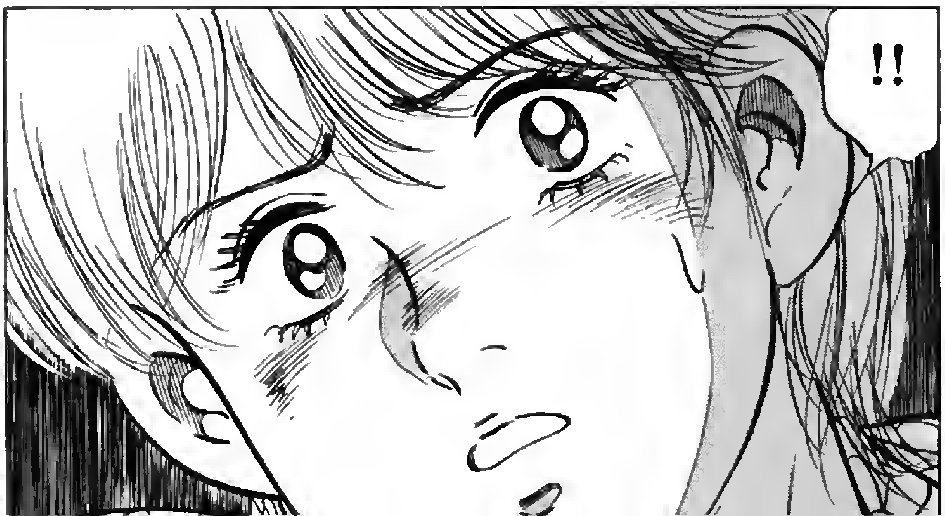

KNOCK
KNOCK
Gunma...
Are you there?
It's me. I hope you don't mind.
KACHUK
I'm co-ming in.

I wanted to talk, so I came over.
KACHUK

...

Nothing in particular, really...
About what?
Yeah?
!?
About what?
Gun-ma...
What the hell do you wanna talk about!?
WHAM!

Maybe about how great it felt to screw Peabow!? Could that be it!?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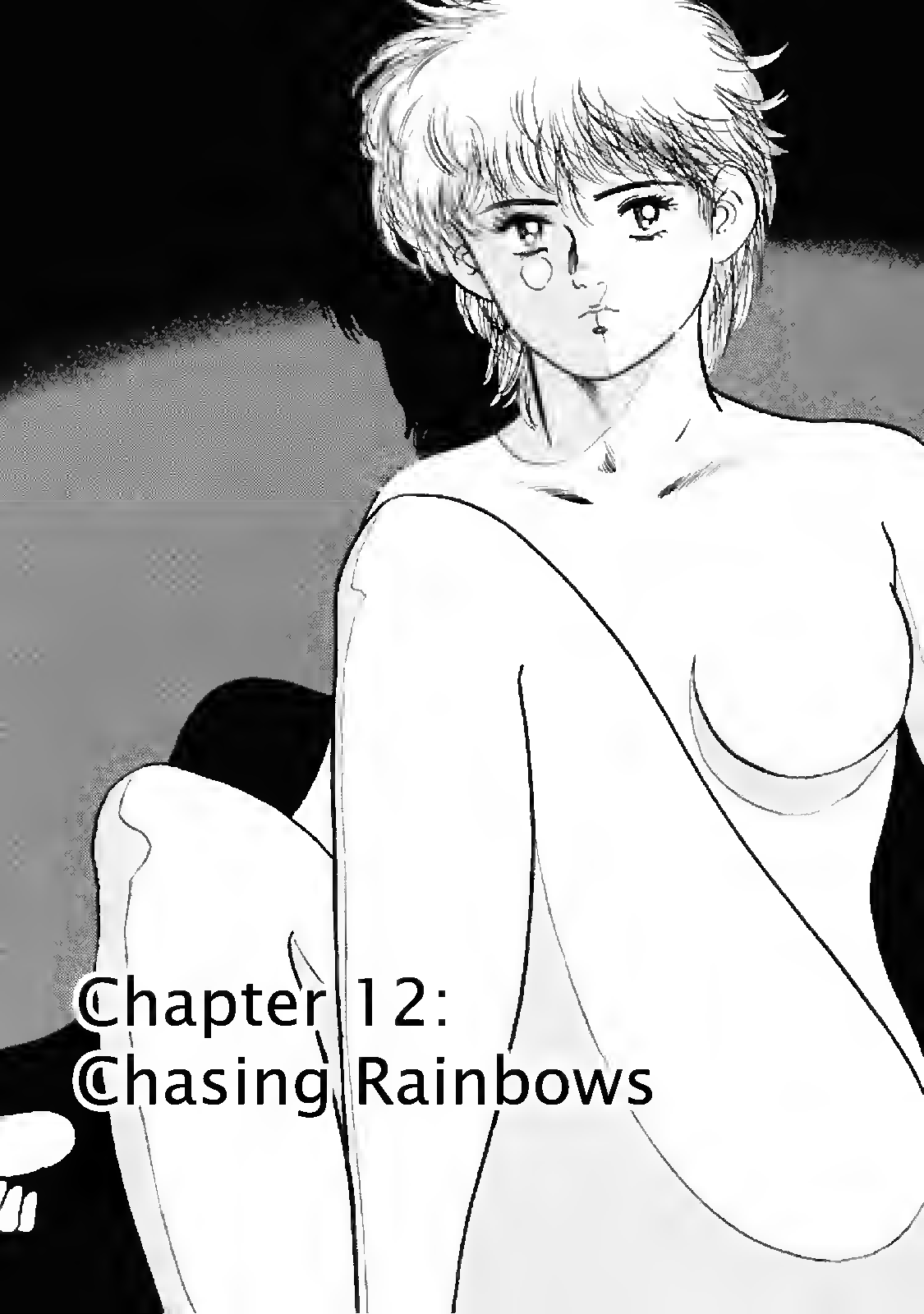
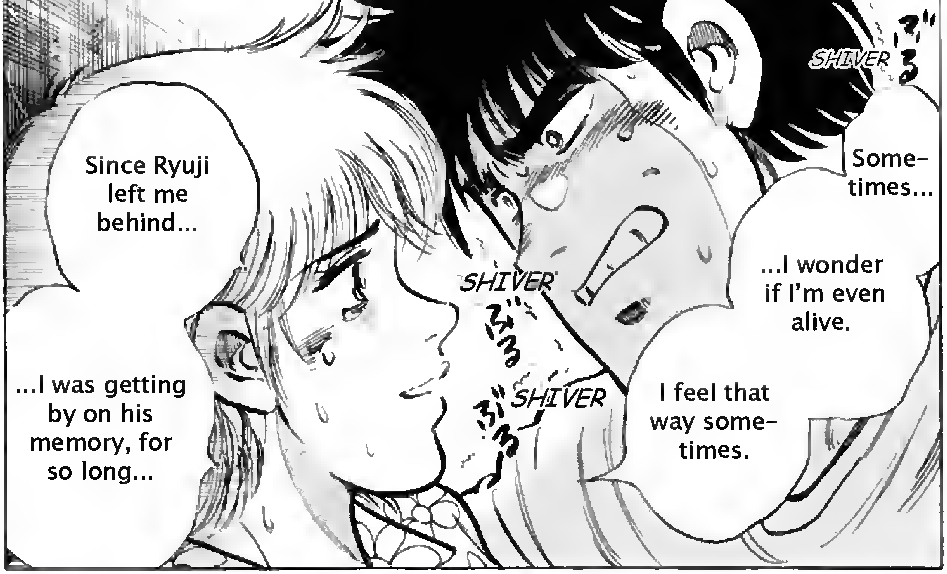
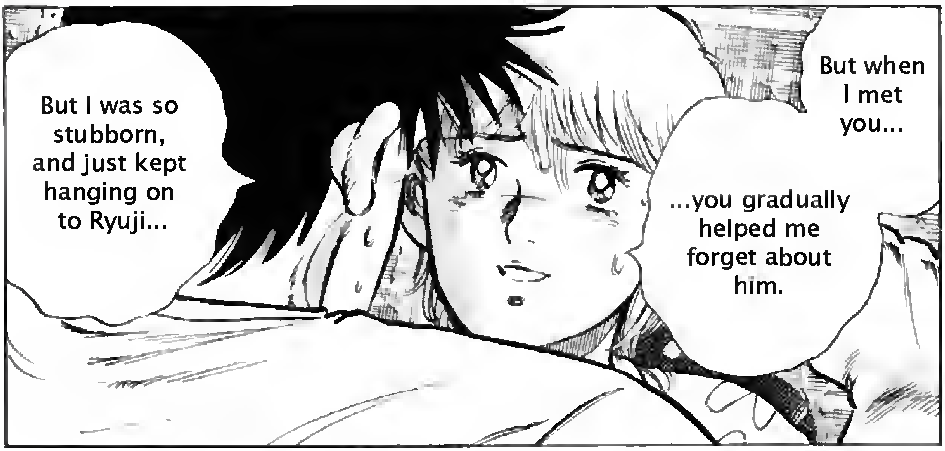

Chapter 12:
Chasing Rainbows

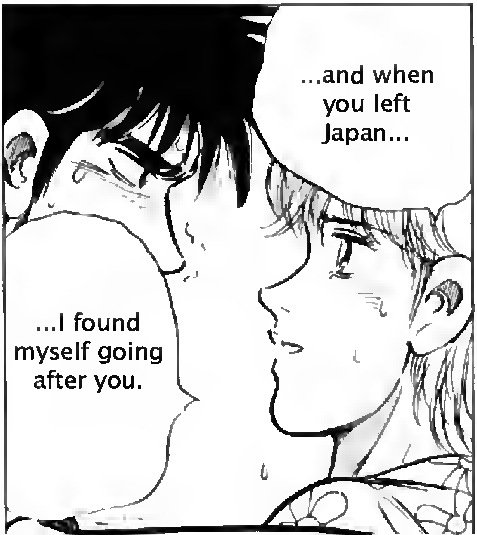
...
Junko!
How could you...
He called you...
...didn't he...?
I won't deny it. I had sex with him.

I was lonely.
I'm sorry.
WHAM
...
...were lonely ...!?
You...

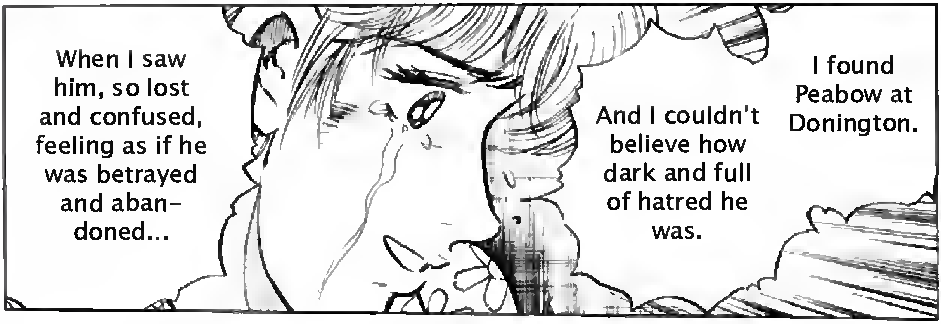

Since Ryuji left me behind...
...I was getting by on his memory, for so long...
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
Some-times...
...I wonder if I'm even alive.
I feel that way some-times.

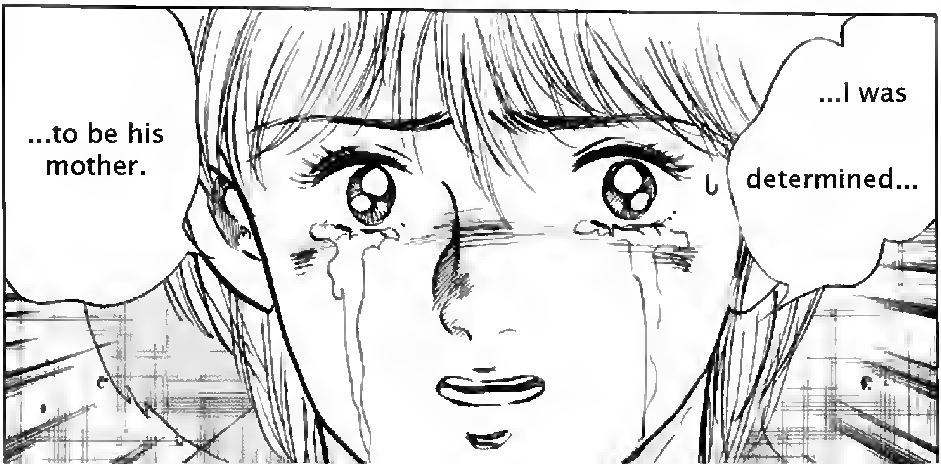

But I was so stubborn, and just kept hanging on to Ryuji...
But when I met you...
...you gradually helped me forget about him.

...and found myself chasing a shadow again, the pitiful woman I am.
I wonder if I'm really alive.
But I was too late...


...and when you left Japan...
...I found myself going after you.

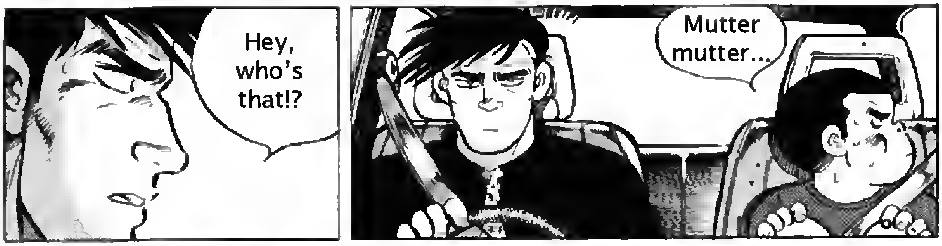
I envy Yuki and Sako.
I really do.
They grabbed the world by the tail, and lived their lives to the fullest.
When I compare myself to them, I might as well be dead.
...


I found Peabow at Donington.
And I couldn't believe how dark and full of hatred he was.
When I saw him, so lost and confused, feeling as if he was betrayed and abandoned...


...I was determined...
...to be his mother.

...was to love him, love him, love him...
I realized my mis-sion in life...
...with all my heart and soul, so that I could guide the boy I used to know...
...with that kind and gentle heart, out of the darkness.

Raaaa aaah.
...
Ride the Wind
Motor Sports
Ahhhh hh!
CRASH
THUMP
WHAM
WHAM
CRASH
SNAP
Gunma ...

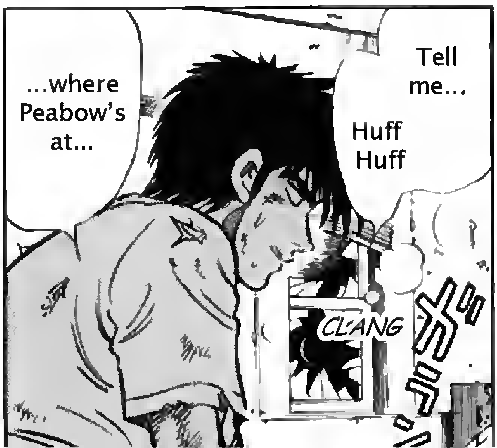

Hey, who's that!?
Mutter mutter...

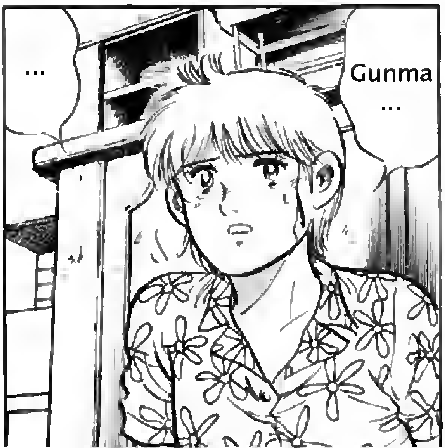
Huh?
It's Peabow...!

POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
CRASH
CRASH
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
Get down, Tamotsu...
Tell Gunma he better wear a bulletproof vest in the next race!
...
...
SHING
Ha ha ha ha ha!
Take that, suc-kers!

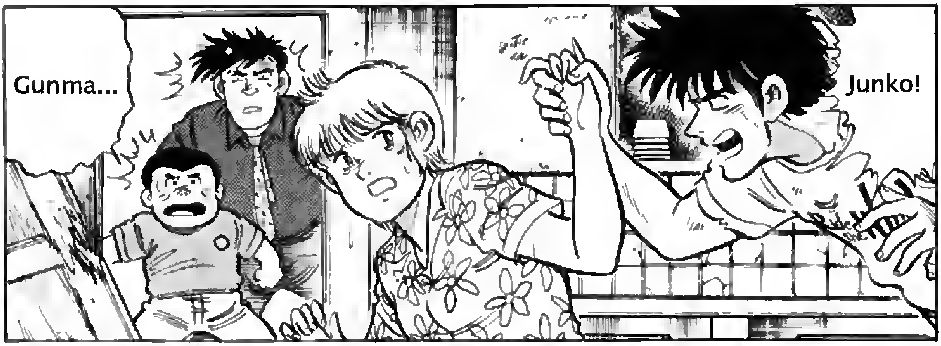
POOF!
Why you little...
Oh yeah.
Duh... duh... duh...
Mr. Kuroi! You okay!?
!?
WOOSH
Ha ha ha ha ha ha...
I've been keeping a close watch on Gunma's apartment.
And you guys dropped off Junko there.
Hm hm hm... Can you guess what they're doing?
Gunma's probably in a rage by now from my phone call!

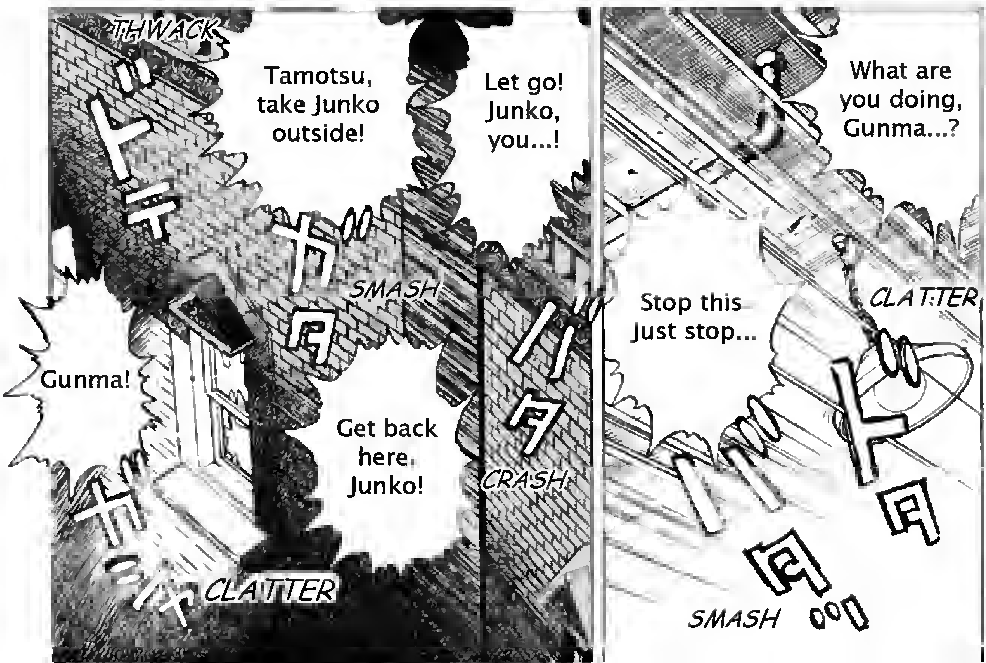
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff

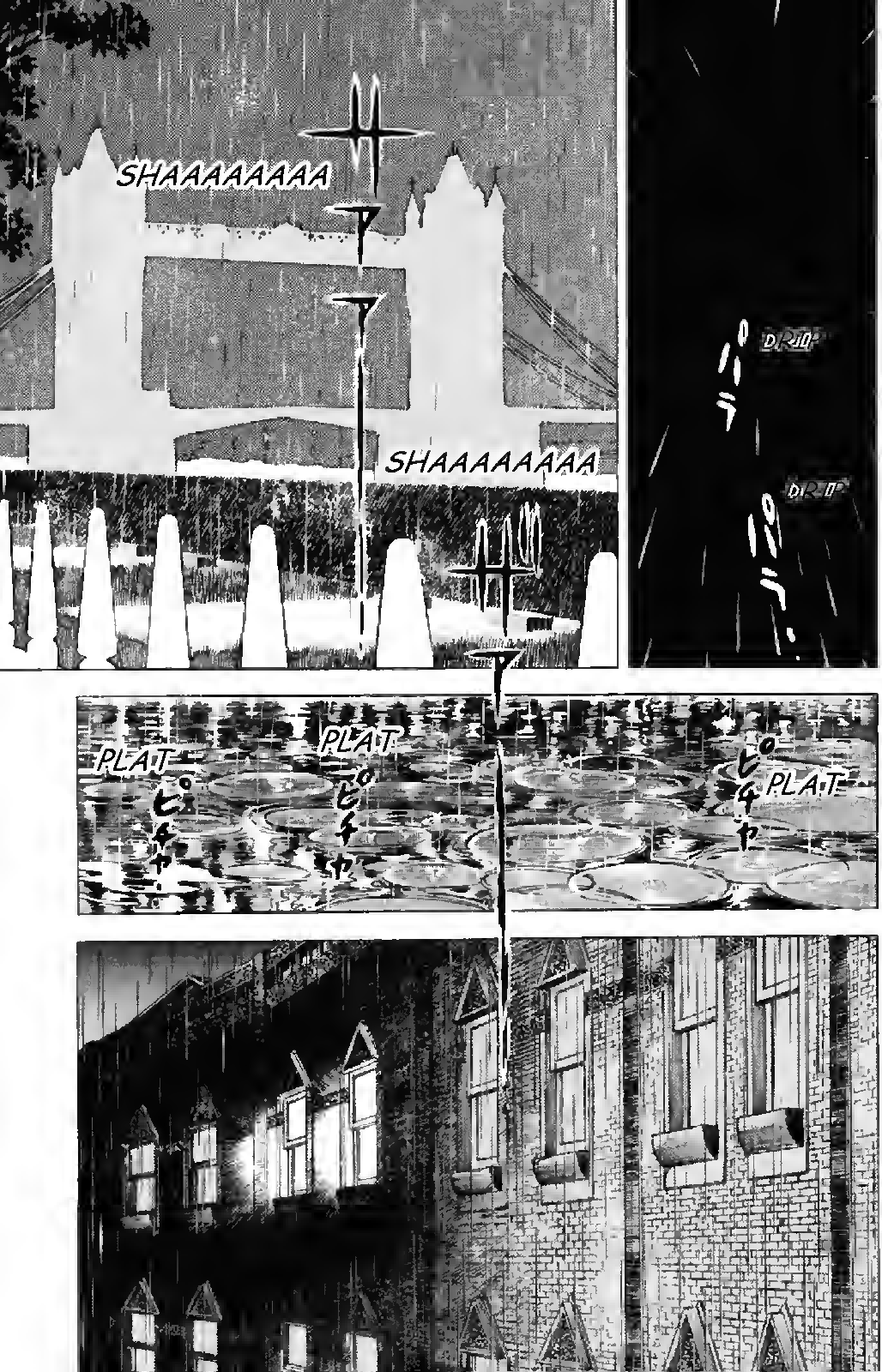

...where Peabow's at...
Tell me...
Huff Huff
CLANG

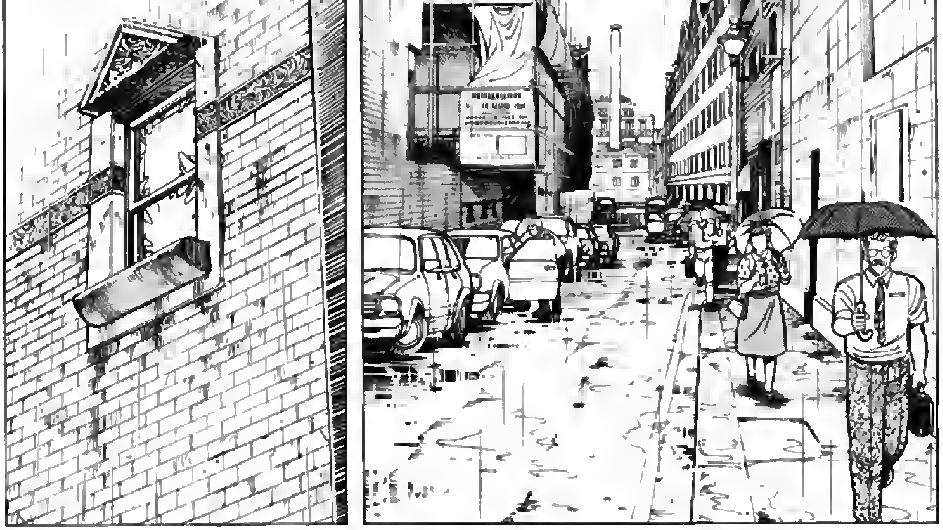

...
Gunma ...

I'm leaving now.
Tell me, Junko!
I can't do that.
...


Gunma...
Junko!

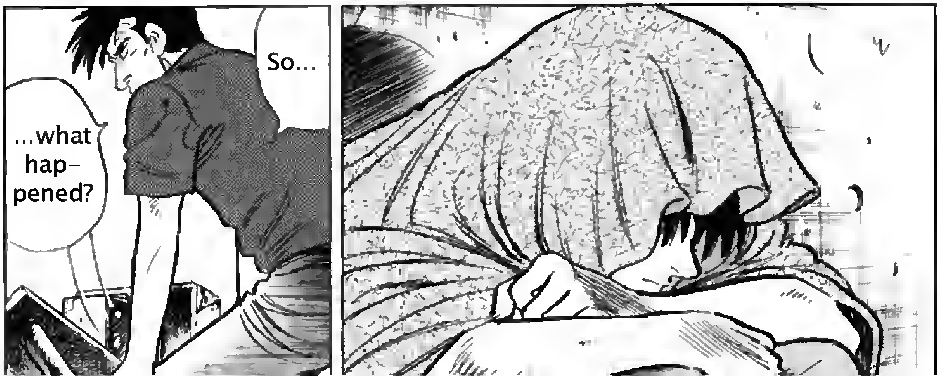

THWACK
Tamotsu, take Junko outside!
Let go! Junko, you...!
SMASH
Gunma!
Get back here, Junko!
CRASH
CLATTER
What are you doing, Gunma...?
Stop this
Just stop...
CLATTER
SMASH


SHAAAAAAAA
SHAAAAAAAA
DRIP
DRIP
PLAT
ピチャ
PLAT
ピチャ
PLAT
ピチャ



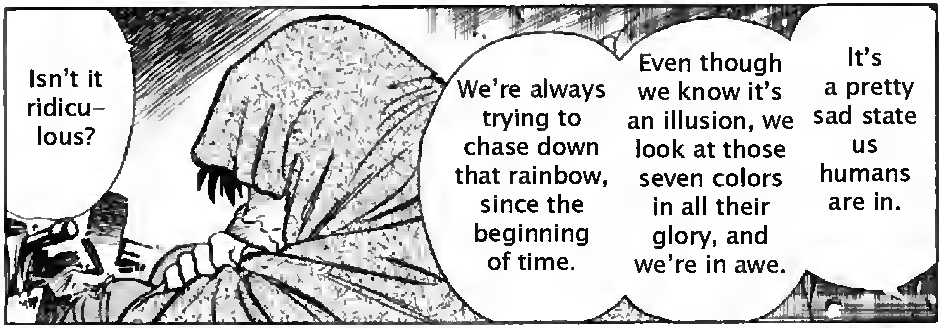
I thought you were getting along great.
What the hell got into you?
Man...

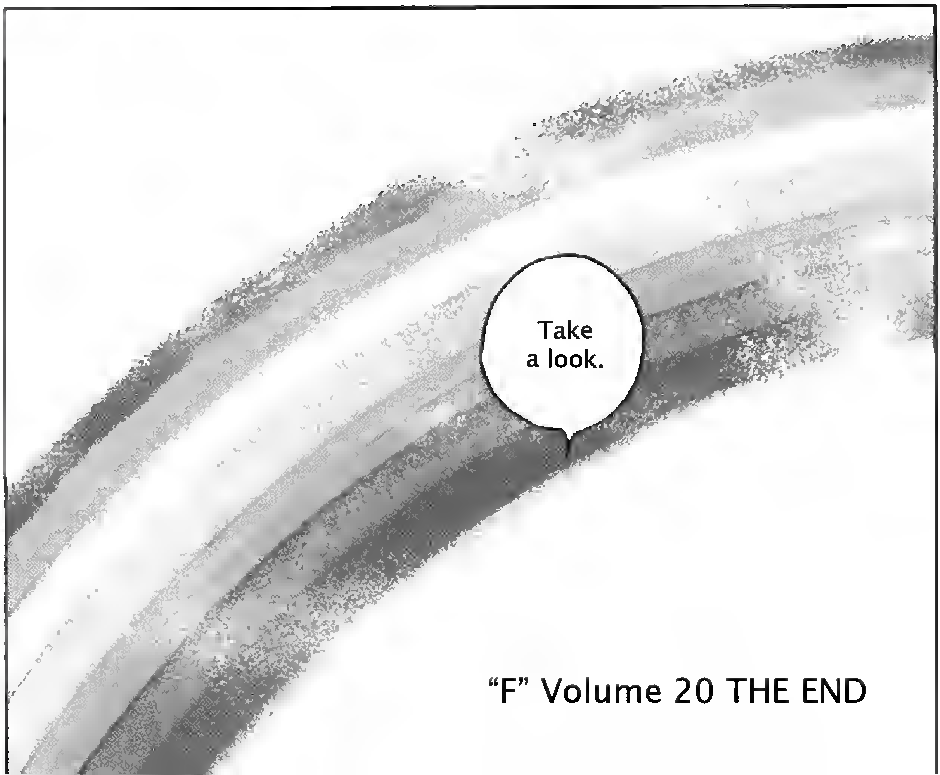
Feeling better?
It's morning already.


So...
...what hap-pened?

...had sex.
Peabow and Junko...
You don't have to tell me.
Or did that kid have somethin' to do with this?
Did you make a pass at her and she refused?
Ha ha ha.
KREHH
KREHH
I'm sure. She told me herself.
How could that... Are you...?
...but Peabow of all people.
If it was some other guy, that's different...
And I just snapped.
...
It's a rain-bow.
Take a look Gunma.

...maybe they're all an illusion, just like that rainbow.
Love and hate...
...victory and defeat...


Isn't it ridicu-lous?
We're always trying to chase down that rainbow, since the beginning of time.
Even though we know it's an illusion, we look at those seven colors in all their glory, and we're in awe.
It's a pretty sad state us humans are in.


Take a look.
"F" Volume 20 THE END

F VOL.20

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